DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 41 Section 1 May 18, 1925.

THE GRAIN PRICE INVESTIGATION

An editorial in to-day's New York Times says: "Secretary Jardine issues a statement regretting lack of 'proof' of anything unlawful in the fluctuations of wheat prices over a range of about 70 points in a few weeks, including many daily ranges of 10 cents. There were profits and losses in both the ups and downs, but the Secretary is thinking of 'making a rule limiting the spread in daily quotations' on the exchanges. This is probably the first attempt to regulate the movement of prices both ways and to check both bulls and bears. The experience of a thousand years has shown the futility of enacting either a maximum or a minimum price. The successful naming of two prices would be a miracle. Only the other day Senator Shipstead denied that he was responsible for advising the farmers to sell before the rise in wheat, and charged the Agricultural Department with propaganda to make bread dear. The department did, indeed, exonerate the exchanges, and informed the farmers that world shortage and large United States exports were the causes of the rise in price. No doubt that helped the bulls and pleased the farmers who had not sold too soon. There are differences between the Agricultural Department and private guessers about the size of the next crop, and prices may either rise or fall. It seems highly probable that Secretary Jardine will make trouble for himself if he proceeds with his plan. If he finds the Chicago Board of Trade guilty of manipulation, Winnipeg may ask him why its prices broke similarly. Argentine, British and Continental markets fell only in less degree. The Secretary seems to see this, for his statement adds that 'the operations of the manipulators were facilitated by the large participation on the part of the public.' Everybody seems to be to blame and nobody in particular."

SIR DANIEL HALL ON PRODUCTION AND POPULATION

The New York Times to-day says: "The food supply of the world is falling behind so rapidly in proportion to the growth of population that civilization is already in the first stages of a period when sweeping changes in world agricultural conditions must take place, according to England's foremost authority on agricultural economics, Sir Daniel Hall, who is in New York. The possibility of the world's population growing so large that there will not be enough land to grow food on is not worrying Sir Daniel. He believes economic conditions will tend toward population control through smaller families. What he is concerned about is the lack of man power to raise the crops. The organization of huge business units to conduct farming and replace the one-man farms, and the resulting change in the social life of the rural communities which this will entail, is the solution which Sir Daniel forecasts for the world-wide bread-and-butter problem. This reorganization of society will begin within our generation, according to Sir Daniel. 'When the small, independent farmers generally fail to make a go of it,' he said, 'then capital will see its opportunity and will step in with its advantages of large organization and economical operation. Since 1900 there has been--excepting in the war years--a steady upward trend of food prices. This is likely to increase to a point where capital will not be able to keep its hands off, and then will come the new era of agriculture.....'"

Section 2.

American Institute of Cooperation

Credit problems of cooperative associations will be discussed by nationally known authorities during the summer session of the American Institute of Cooperation, July 20 to August 15, at the University of Pennsylvania. These matters will be handled from the viewpoints of both borrowers and lenders. Among the lecturers are E. C. Williams, member of the Federal Farm Loan Board at Washington, and in charge of the Federal intermediate credit banks; B. Howard Griswell, jr. of Baltimore, Md., a banker who has assisted in some of the most important undertakings to finance large scale cooperative marketing associations; Wilbert Ward, vice-president of the National City Bank of New York City; Dan A. Wallace, of St. Paul, Minn., prominent editor and member of the board of directors of the Minnesota Potato Growers' Exchange; H. S. Yohe of the Warehouse Division, United States Department of Agriculture at Washington will discuss Federal warehouse activities in relation to cooperative credit requirements. Inter-allied problems of cooperative selling organizations and commercial distributive agencies will be treated by E. G. Montgomery, in charge of the Foodstuffs Division of the United States Department of Commerce. Sales problems and policies will be discussed by such authorities as J. W. Alsop, president of the Connecticut Valley Tobacco Association, Hartford, Conn.; H. H. Moyer, manager of the Keystone Cooperative Grape Association, North East, Pa., S. C. Rubinow, general manager of the Minnesota Potato Growers' Exchange, St. Paul, Minn.; John Brandt, president of the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, St. Paul, Minn.; G. W. Slocum, president of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, Inc., New York City; N. P. Hull, president of the Michigan Milk Producers' Association, Detroit, Mich,; H. D. Allebach, president of the Inter-State Milk Producers' Association, Philadelphia, Pa.; M. F. Winder, secretary of the Utah Sugar Beet Growers' Association, Salt Lake City, Utah; Richard Pattee, managing director of the New England Milk Producers' Association, Boston, Mass.; Harry Hartke of Covington, Ky., vice-president of the Cooperative Pure Milk Association, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Dr. Clyde L. King, secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a noted economist on the staff of the Wharton School of Finance, University of Pennsylvania. The development of the cooperative movement, its theory, application and forms will be discussed by such authorities as: Dr. John D. Black, University of Minnesota; Prof. F. A. Buechel, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas; Chris Christensen, head of the Cooperative Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture; Prof. H. A. Ross, Cornell University; Dr. H. C. Taylor, Chief and L. S. Tenny, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department

of Agriculture; Dr. E. G. Nourse, of Washington, D. C., former president of the American Farm Economics Association; and Charles W. Holman of Washington, D. C., secretary of the National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation. A series of lectures on cooperation in Denmark will be given by Soren Sorenson, Agricultural Attache of the Danish Legation in Washington. Still further speakers include O. V. Swarthout, Accounting Specialist, United States Department of Agriculture; C. W. Warburton, Director of Extension, United States Department of Agriculture; Charles S. Barrett, president of the National Farmers' Union; L. J. Taber, master of the National Grange and Frank Evans, secretary of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago. (Press statement, Am. Inst. of Coop., May 17.)

Cotton Manufacture

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 16 says: "At a meeting in New York on Thursday leading interests in the cotton industry resolved 'that in the opinion of the National Council of American Cotton Manufacturers the only prompt and efficient remedy for the present condition of the cotton industry is in the curtailment of production.' This decision was reached, we are told, only after long and careful consideration and discussion of the situation as it exists in the cotton textile industry to-day, and there is little reason to doubt the wisdom of the policy recommended. Along with a good many others, our cotton manufacturers were rather unusually active during the latter early months of the current year. Sales have not kept pace with production, and substantial stocks have accordingly been accumulated in some lines. These are being worked off, but not as rapidly as many had hoped they would be. The situation in this respect is not so embarrassing as it was last year by a considerabel margin, but it is sufficiently serious to indicate a greater reduction in current output than has as yet taken place."

Fur Sales

A New York dispatch to the press of May 16 states that sales aggregating $450,000 at May 15. sesssions of the $6,000,000 auction of raw furs at New York brought the total for five days up to $3,350,000.

Germany to Restore Grain Tariff

A Berlin dispatch to the press of May 16 states that Food Minister Kanitz May 15 informed the Reichstag that the Government shortly would introduce a new tariff bill reviving the pre-war protective tariff on grain and iron. The bill would propose import duties of 5 marks on rye and 5½ marks on wheat. The law would become operative on Aug. 1, 1926, until which time only half these duties would be imposed.

Grain Price Investigation

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 15 says: "It appears just a little incongrous for the Secretary of Agriculture now to be taking such an active interest in the course of wheat futures prices last winter. In the first place it is a pretty late date to be making so much of the events of that period, and in the second place it is not easy to see how the farmer as such has been very greatly injured by the purely speculative pyrotechnics of prices

on the Chicago Board of Trade floor several months ago. the Secretary of Agriculture is presumably in Washington to look after the interest of the farmers throughout the land. If wheat growers had any wheat to sell after the end of January, when the price of futures began its headlong plunge, it was not grain of their own growing to any great extent, but rather paper contracts which they had been foolish enough to buy in the hope of taking a profit from the very sort of transactions that they have so often condemned. Moreover, it they had any grain left in their bins they were still able to get all for it that it was worth. At no time have prices been specially low within the past six or eight months. Again, if any farmer overstayed the market with his own wheat he can hardly blame anyone but himself. It may or may not be true that illegal acts were at some times and by some traders committed in the course of the winter. Certainly, there is not much reason to suppose that there was any consistent commitment of crime. But however such things may be, it is utterly unnecessary to posit any violation of any law to account for what took place in the wheat futures market last winter. The course of events which carried May futures up from $1, 76¼ on January 2 to $2.05 7/8 on January 28 and by April 3 had them down to $1.36½ is in essence one that is familiar to speculative markets. Essentially the same thing occurred at about the same time in the New York Stock Exchange. Cotton, sugar, coffee and all other organized markets where speculation is common have on many occasions experienced about the same sort of thing..... In any case, the remedy does not lie in technical revision of trading rules. Essentially this sort of thing will always be present at favorable moments so long as there is a large element in the population that is ever ready to 'take a chance' in a game it knows nothing about in the hopes of getting rich quick. Those who suffer most are those gullible sporadic speculators who permit themselves time and again to be drawn into the markets at the wrong time..... So far as the wheat situation is concerned, a word from the Department of Agriculture last December would have done more to protect those who have lost in the Chicago market than anything that can be done now."

Grain Speculators

"The methods employed in Chicago are apparently clear and certainly familiar enough. Due to large stocks wheat prices were low in the early summer of last year. Crop shortages, not to say failures, in the important producing areas of the world brought about fairly sharp change in the statistical position of wheat. Prices at once began to climb. Professional speculators soon saw the usual possibilities in the situation that then existed. 'Prosperity' was forecast on all sides as a result of a number of causes, like the 'acceptance' of the Dawes plan, the re-election of President Coolidge, the superabundance of money and the like. The stage was all set for a 'big bull movement' in prices. That movement inevitably came with the help, no doubt, of professional operations. 'Insiders', however, know well enough what they were doing, and when the 'public' came tardily into the market as usual when the peak of prices had been reached they cashed in their paper profits, leaving 'weak' bulls

to hold the bag. The rank and file of the small dabblers in speculative markets, finding themselves loaded up with wheat which refused to go higher, dumped their holdings on the market and thereby added to the weakness of prices--and to their losses. This is not altogether a pleasant story. The procedure described may or may not be in accord with good ethics. It is, however, an old story, and if it is wrong in the wheat market it is likewise wrong in the stock and other markets." (Jour. of Commerce, May 15.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Chicago Journal of Commerce for May 15 says: "In the present conferences between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chicago Board of Trade concerning manipulation, each side has a distinct obligation toward each other and toward the public. The Board of Trade being subject to regulation by the Secretary of Agriculture, is in duty bound to obey both the letter and the spirit of every lawful regulation prescribed by him. We know the board is fundamentally a thoroughly sound and necessary institution. If there are any incidental practices which do not jibe with the board's fundamental purpose of serving as a free market, these practices should be eradicated. To eradicate them the board should cordially cooperate with the Secretary of Agriculture. The board's duty to the public is of another nature. Only a small proportion of the people are sufficiently acquainted with economics to understand the indispensability of the market which the board supplies. Educational efforts might help somewhat, but we are not sufficiently optimistic to believe that most of the public turns a glad face toward all educational efforts. Since the public will not be taught to distinguish between what is good practice and evil practice, it is the duty of the board to avoid even the appearance of evil. It should display a frank spirit toward the public and toward the Government. It should try to gain public confidence by attempting to avoid any conduct which might be liable to misinterpretation. Above all, it should show by its manner that it is anxious to prevent manipulation and that it is not a selfish institution complying grumblingly with governmental edicts.

"And now as to the duty of the Secretary of Agriculture. It is the duty of the Secretary to define, very clearly, very definitely and sharply, what constitutes manipulation, what constitutes prohibited practices. Every transaction on the board must in some manner, however slight, have a manipulative influence. If a man buys grain futures, it is on the expectation that the price will go higher; and he knows his purchase will help the ascending movement. If he sells, he knows his sale will help decrease prices. This must be true in any free market. What, then, constitutes manipulation? Many board of trade members are puzzled. They can not tell. Under the present law and under the rules of sound economics,

the mere volume of a transaction can not determine whether it is manipulative. A big purchase or a big sale cannot, by its size alone, be construed as manipulation. No transaction is manipulative unless it definitely tends to make the board cease to be a free market; unless it definitely concentrates control of price within a few hands. The plain fact of the matter is that some of the most experienced and most intelligent traders in the country do not know how to lay down a rule that would define manipulation. If the Secretary of Agriculture knows how to do this, he should explain it in the clearest words."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

For the week ended May 16: Chicago hog prices ranged from 30 to 45¢ lower than a week ago, closing at $12.25 for the top and $11.90 to $12.20 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers steady to 5¢ lower at $8.50 to $11.15; butcher cows and hiefers steady to 25¢ lower at $4.65 to $11.25; feeder steers steady to 10¢ higher at $6 to $9; light and medium weight veal calves 25¢ higher at $7.75 to $11; fat lambs 25 to 60¢ lower at $11.75 to $13.50; spring lambs steady to 25¢ lower at $14 to $16.50; yearlings steady to 25¢ higher at $8.50 to $11.75 and fat ewes 10¢ to 25¢ higher at $5.25 to $8.60.

Butter markets continued sensitive during the week, closing firm to-day. Occasional shipments of grass butter appearing on markets. Foreign markets show further reductions. Closing prices on 92 score; New York 44¢; Chicago 41 1/2¢; Philadelphia 45¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Cheese markets quiet. Prices somewhat irregular but show advances on Wisconsin Cheese Boards which met May 15. Wholesale prices on Wisconsin primary markets May 15: Single Daisies 21 1/2¢; Young Americas 21 3/4¢; Longhorns 21 1/2¢.

Grain market firm. May wheat futures about 5 to 7 cents higher than week ago but new crop futures not following full advances. Export business good and cash wheat firm. Corn futures slightly higher with strength in wheat and light offerings contract grades although decline in hog prices tended to weaken the market. Oat futures fractionally higher with corn, Commercial supplies decreasing but still large.

Hay prices quoted May 16: No. 1 timothy - Boston $25; New York $25.50; Pittsburgh $20; Cincinnati $18; Chicago $21; St. Louis $21.50; Kansas City $14.50; Memphis $22. No. 1 alfalfa - Kansas City $19.50; Omaha $15.50; Memphis $28; Atlanta $25.50. No. 1 prairie Kansas City $10.75; Omaha $10.50; Chicago $16; St. Louis $15; Minneapolis $16.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 54 points during the week, closing at 23.01¢ per lb. New York May future contracts declined 92 points, closing at 22.10¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XVII, No. 42 Section 1 May 19, 1925.

WORLD COTTON CROP

Prospects that the world cotton crop of 1924-25 may total 24,700,000 bales as estimated by the Department of Agriculture against 20,613,000 in the closing year of the World War lends interest to a study of world cotton production outlined by the Trade Record of The National City Bank of New York. It shows that the world's output of cotton, now the chief textile for clothing material, has grown from approximately 1 million bales in 1800 to nearly 3 million in 1850, 6 3/4 million in 1875, 15 millions in 1900, and 27 3/4 million in the year preceding the opening of the World War. With the increased demand for foodstuffs growing out of the war and the difficulties of transportation, the world's cotton crop, according to estimates of the Department of Agriculture, fell to 20½ million bales in the cotton year 1918-19, dropping to 15-1/3 million in the crop year 1921-22, 19 million in 1923-24, and promises, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the Department of Agriculture, to reach 24,700,000 bales in the current crop year 1924-25, or more than in any year since the opening of the war and but little below the high pre-war record. This big growth in the world cotton outturn in the past 125 years, says the Trade Record, has occurred chiefly in the United States, whose cotton crop in 1800 is estimated at 73,000 bales, of 478 pounds, advancing to 533,000 in 1925, approximately 2,000,000 in 1850, 4½ million in 1875, 10,000,000 in 1900, and 16,000,000 in 1914. Our share of the world production advanced from seven per cent in 1800 to sixty-eight per cent in 1914 and seventy per cent in the cotton year 1918-19 but with the return to the cotton industry in other parts of the world our share of the world's crop has fallen to fifty-nine per cent in 1921-22 and is estimated by the Department of Agriculture to be about fifty-five per cent in the cotton year 1924-25. This drop in our percentage of the world's cotton outturn is due in part to increased production in other parts of the globe and a slight reduction in our own crop, while the crops of India and Egypt in the current year are set down as materially larger than in 1914-15. India, Egypt, Russia, China, Brazil, and Mexico are, in the order stated, the world's chief cotton producers outside the United States. Our own consumption of cotton has increased quite as rapidly, measured by percentage, as that of domestic production. Raw cotton imported into the United States, coming chiefly from the other side of the globe--China, India, and Egypt—has increased from 68 million pounds in 1900 to 161 million in 1924.

FUR SALE

The press to-day states thatmore than 64,000 mink skins were offered at New York May 18 at the resumption of the $6,000,000 sale of raw furs that began a week ago and which will continue through Friday of this week. Due to the great size of the collection it could not all be sold in the allotted time.

"RAYON"

Efforts are being made by trade associations through Government channels to have the generic term "rayon," adopted abroad as descriptive of artificial silk, in a similar manner to the formal acceptance of the term by producers in this country, leading textile associations and department stores. (Press, May 19.)

Section 2.

Coffee Conferences

The Journal of Commerce for May 18 says: "News dispatches are to the effect that Brazilian groups are now interesting themselves to learn at first hand why our consumption of coffee from South America is not maintaining the volume that they had hoped and expected. Dealers and others in this country in turn are said to be ready and willing to meet these representatives of coffee exporters half way and to discuss matters of mutual interest in the hope of establishing better relations between the two markets. If these conferences are conducted in a frank and intelligent manner and if the inquiry on the part of coffee growers and exporters is intellectually honest some wholesome truths ought to be established in the minds of our friends from South America. They are said to doubt the stories of boycotts, buyers' strikes and the like. If what is meant is that they are not disposed to believe that any organized effort has been made to break the Brazilian coffee market they are no doubt quite correct. But it is equally certain that efforts to raise coffee prices to unduly high levels and hold them there has curtailed sales in this country. This is the main point at issue, and the sooner it is understood the better."

Cotton

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 18 says: "On Wednesday, May 13, October cotton in New York sold as low as 21.55 cents a pound and on the next day at 21.83. Compared with 25.95, the high point at which it sold only two months ago, this drop is almost sensational. However, it furnishes opportunities for the awake and alert to provide for future needs. A month ago this newspaper published an article on the 'Fine Points of Cotton Buying,' by Weld & Co. This was not a mere academic discussion, but the outgrowth of experience. Consumers' purchases were advised on sharp breaks, increasing in size proportionately with the breaks. One may ask what a sharp break is. It would seem as if 100 points inside of a few days, as pointed out in that article, could be called sharp enough to merit attention. Few in any speculative market succeed while many fall. One of the reasons of this is because the shrewd investor will buy when what he needs is cheap enough for his purpose and accumulate gladly on a scale down. There are others to whom nothing ever looks cheap enough when a market is declining. The cotton and grain markets are no different from the stock market in this psychology. On the day that October cotton touched 21.55 it closed at 21.78, which represented a drop of 100 points in a week. If we look back to the middle of April it will be seen that there has been a total cotton decline of 300 points. Even if the closing prices for the whole week between April 13 and 18 are averaged the difference between that average and the closing prices on May 13 is 276 points. These breaks should call for accumulation of cotton by those who deal in it for manufacture or export. There is, of course, a natural tendency to hold off because of the feeling that cotton will go lower. The acreage is supposed to be unusually large and, on the

whole, the crop condition is good, while the growing condition should improve over the next two months. It would not be at all strange if in such circumstances, with the trade keyed up to the hope of a large crop, prices worked still lower. But who excepting the speculator wishes to take that risk on anything as uncertain as a cotton crop?"

Finland's Forests

An editorial in The New York Times of May 11 says: "John Saari of Portland, Ore., who seems to have the confidence of men in the lumber trade, was invited by the lumber manufacturers of Finland last winter, not to visit Helsingfors and tell them how America has cared for her forests but to go into the vast and still growing woods of Finland, stretching toward and beyond the Arctic Circle, to make a 'survey' and to advise them as to the 'Availability of the American market for Finnish lumber.' This 'exchange' lumberman has just returned from that young republic of unnumerable lakes and streams, and of forests that cover 73.5 per cent of the total land area. The most striking statement in the interview which he gave The New York Lumber Trade Journal is that while Finland is the largest exporter of lumber in Europe, and in fact in the world outside of the United States and Canada, the 'stand' of lumber in Finland is increasing every year. While the annual cutting is 1,143,000,000 cubic feet, the annual growth is 1,563,000,000 cubic feet. Moreover, it is estimated that by further improvement in forestation the yearly cut may be increased 50 per cent, and yet not outrun the annual growth. Finland, coming 'into her own,' has a dowry of great value. In her forest product she is the richest country in Europe except the spacious Russia, says Mr. Saari, and the forests of European Russia and of the great Siberian regions are largely inaccessible....."

Fur Farming in Canada

Every province of Canada now has its fur farms, with the West promising in time to rival the East. Not only does each year see a swelling in the number of fur farm establishments, but new varieties of animals are being steadily brought under domestication. To-day there are over 1,200 fur farms in the Dominion with more than 40,000 animals of ten different species on them valued at over $6,000,000. Pelts sold in a year from these establishments approximate $1,000,000 in value, whilst live animals sold from tham reach a value of nearly $1,500,000. (Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada, May.)

Grape Growing in Florida

The Florida Times-Union for May 14 says: "A story coming from Mount Dora recently was to the effect that capitalists of that place had recently acquired 3,700 acres of land in Lake county, near Clermont, and proposed to extend their already large holdings. Planting vineyards will suggest to others the possibilities of grape-growing in the State. Some years ago California took a long step forward in grape-growing and extended her vineyards greatly. Grape-growing in some other parts of the country was a well-developed industry ..... In Florida successful experimentation has proved that many sections of the State are well adapted to grape-growing. The Mount

Dora capitalists know that certain excellent varieties of grapes grow well in Lake County, and they will plant the vines on the nearly four thousand acres expecting good results. It should mean a large and fine crop of grapes in two or three years. Raising a crop is, of course, one thing, and selling it another. But there should be no worry about the permanency of the demand for grapes. Increasing steadily the imports of grapes to be sold in the city of Jacksonville amounts to trainloads already. The grapes come from California and Utah and some sections of New York State. The trade is as reliable and dependable as that of corn or potatoes. Florida can and should seize the opportunity of diversifying her products. Grape culture must pay handsomely in the State."

Irrigation Projects

An editorial in The New York Times for May 15 says: "How to keep the farmers irrigation projects is one of the problems troubling Secretary Work on his return from an inspection tour through some of the Western States. Apparently it is not enough to lead water to fertile land. It is also necessary to attract settlers, and these, unfortunately, are no more willing to go to irrigation lands where the charges are high than they are to settle in some of the 'dry farming' regions where an extra dry year means disaster. There is nothing particularly new or startling in this. Experience has shown that irrigation farming does not appeal to every farmer. For those who understand it and who have favorable marketing conditions there are generous profits..... But the trouble has arisen on projects where the cost of construction and of distributing water--both of which are eventually borne by the farmer--has been so much larger than had been estimated that it has placed a greater overhead charge on farming operations than the land would bear. The Government has been lenient to farmers on such lands, and has granted extensions for paying water rentals and other charges during the years of lowered agricultural prices. The trouble, however, is fundamental, and can be met only by some such reapportionment of charges as is contemplated in the new measure to adjust water rates in proportion to average yield per acre over a period of years. This means an ultimate loss for the Government. But so also would a permanent abandonment of a large acreage on any project where large capital sums had been invested..... Once it becomes known that the new reclamation policy provides for moderate water charges based on acreage yields rather than on construction costs, it will be possible to attract farmers to take over lands now being abandoned. With the growing shortage of good farm lands men will turn more and more to available lands in reclaimed areas which promise a fair yield per acre."

Spanish-Canadian Trade

A provisional trade agreement to be followed by a definite treaty has been entered into between Canada and Spain, states a Canadian Pacific bulletin. Spain grants important benefits to Canada and the Dominion concedes the intermediate tariff to Spanish imports. The agreement has been reached after protracted negotiation. The new agreement will give Canadian exports to Spain a preferential tariff, which is usually about one-third of the general tariff. The new rate on agricultural implements will be about one-half. Other Canadian products

which will benefit are wheat, automobiles, rubber tires, electrical apparatus and soda. Canada's heaviest import from Spain, which is raisins, is apparently not affected by the agreement. (Press, May 13.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

The Financial Age for May 16 says: "Much interest attaches to the showing of the Government's crop experts and the disclosures of the May wheat return. Many bankers and business experts for years have been in the habit of basing their operations in a business way to a large extent upon the out-turn of the harvests which are always indicated more or less accurately by the official forecasts which the Department of Agriculture publishes monthly. The condition of 77 per cent for the wheat as of May 1 was the lowest shown since 1917, notwithstanding the fact that the grain trade itself had previously forecast a lower estimate. The May figure was more than 8 per cent above that of a month ago and the indicated yield is also somewhat more favorable. But the great problem which the May report presents has to do with the effect of the large loss disclosed as a consequence of the 'winter killed acreage.' This return is never compiled before the May report so that the figures just given out are the first official exhibit made for the year..... It must not be forgotten that the United States is still to all intents and purposes largely an agricultural country. We have enormous manufacturing interests and an industrial organization which is unsurpassed in the world. But a large portion of our real wealth comes from the crops, for it has been true on many other occasions, as it was last year, that the American wheat surplus has been depended upon to feed the world. In other words, it has been of enormous service to the people in correcting the inequalities of the season and in helping to reconstruct industry on a safe and sound basis. A large portion of the American people are more or less dependent on the price of wheat and there is no doubt but that the extremely favorable conditions which brought about a strong European demand last year had an enormous influence upon the Presidential election and upon the factors which went with it. The American people for many years have gained largely from the handsome European credits accumulated as a consequence of the favorable wheat showing and the extremely interesting and fortunate increase in the foreign bid for American grain. There is no denying the fact, therefore, that the Government's monthly grain reports from now on will throw a great deal of light upon the business situation and upon the underlying factors making for sustained prosperity in the United States. It is unquestionably true that the American people have never been highly prosperous in a year of wheat famine. It is also true that they have never experienced continued good times of the best sort in a season of sensational wheat shortage. There is plenty of time, however, for improving the situation, although the larger abandoned acreage means that the country is face to face with some very interesting and important problems in connection with the expected falling off in the crop yields."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 18: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.80 for the top and $12.40 to $12.75 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $6.25 to $10.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.50 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.75; light and medium weight veal calves $7.75 to $11; fat lambs $11.25 to $13; spring lambs $13.75 to $16; yearlings $8.50 to $11.50; fat ewes $5 to $8.25.

Slat barrels of South Carolina Cobblers closed at $6 to $6.25 to jobbers in city markets; mostly $5.50 f. o. b. Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes ranged $6 to $7 per barrel in leading markets. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions firm at $3.50 to $3.65 per crate. Prices of Florida fancy tomatoes weakened to $3.50 to $4.50 per original six-basket carrier in city markets and held steady at $3.50 f. o. b. Ocala. Maryland and Virginia strawberries ranged slightly lower at 12¢ to 18¢ quart basis in eastern markets. Salmon Tint cantaloupes appeared in a few markets at $9 to $12 per standard crate of 45 melons.

Grain prices quoted May 18: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.62 to $1.87. No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.97 1/2; St. Louis $1.93 to $1.97; Kansas City $1.68 to $1.73. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.74; St. Louis $1.70 to $1.72; Kansas City $1.63 to $1.70. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.11; Minneapolis $1.04 to $1.06. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.17 to $1.18 1/2; St. Louis $1.16 to $1.16 1/2; Kansas City $1.11. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 to $1.15; Minneapolis $1.08 to $1.11. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.14 to $1.15; Kansas City $1.10; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.14. No. 3 white oats Chicago 44 3/4 to 46 1/2¢; Minneapolis 41 3/8 to 41 7/8¢; St. Louis 46 to 47 1/4¢; Kansas City 49¢

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 44¢; Chicago 41 1/2¢; Philadelphia 45¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 19 points, closing at 23.20¢ per lb. New York May future contracts up 27 points, closing at 22.37¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 18,	May 16,	May 17, 1924.
20 Industrials	127.09	126.50	89.33
20 R. R. stocks	97.50	97.25	81.85

(Wall St. Jour., May 19.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 43 Section 1 May 20, 1925.

DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS

Engineering News-Record for May 14 says: "Both Secretary Mellon and Secretary Jardine showed extraordinary perspicuity in their indorsement of a proposal of a committee of the Department of Agriculture that a number of the needed new buildings of that department be locat. 'on a suitable tract of land some distance from the city' of Washington. Many people are talking decentralization as a cure for urban congestion but how few are those in authority who have the courage to practice it. Our big cities grow bigger and the crowded sections of those cities are the very places that the employers pick out to locate new buildings which crowd the streets with more human beings. Downtown Washington is fast losing its distinction of being a commodious city. It never can, thanks to early sensible planning, be the shambles that some of our other cities are, but it can soon reach an uncomfortable congestion of buildings with an excess of going and coming employees to clutter the streets. Agricultural employees might quite reasonably, it would seem, be taken care of in the outskirts of the city with views and surroundings more or less agricultural. More power to the hand of the Cabinet officers who would take such a decisive step."

NEW YORK TO INVESTIGATE INFECTED CATTLE SALES

An Albany, N. Y., dispatch to the press of May 20 states that Attorney General Ottinger May 19 ordered an investigation of the alleged conspiracy to withhold from slaughter cattle condemned as tubercular by State agents in Cortland County. This action was taken at the request of the Commission of Farms and Markets. Commissioner Pyrke has confirmed statements of inspectors that 30 per cent of the dairy cattle in Cortland County are affected with tuberculosis. Five farms have been quarantined and the milk from numerous herds has been barred to shipment.

A Cortland, N. Y., dispatch states that the dairy industry of Cortland County has been dealt a severe blow by unscrupulous members of a "cattle ring," in the opinion of leaders in the industry there. Innocent dealers and dairymen will suffer heavy losses, it is believed, through the spread of tuberculosis among cattle and the barring of milk from shipment as a result of the sale of condemned cattle to dairymen in that county.

HARVESTER SUIT

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "The decision of the Federal Court at St. Paul May 19 denying the Government's petition for a further dissolution of the International Harvester Company, may not dispose of the matter but it is a mile-stone in the progress of one of the most unusual 'trust-busting' lawsuits in the voluminous history of that pursuit."

An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "The Government will appeal to the Supreme Court from the decision of the special equity court in St. Paul which refused to grant additional provisions in the harvester dissolution decree of 1918."

Section 2

British Agricultural Reports

An editorial in Country Life (London) for May 9 says: "With the exception of the duty on hops--Mr. Churchill's 'small companion beside the silk duty'--the budget contained no proposals of State assistance to agriculture. On the contrary, the increased estate duties will, beyond doubt, involve further breaking up of estates and, consequently, further disorganization of the countryside, except in the case of those far-sighted individuals who lay aside the amount remitted on income tax to pay future death duties. The unsettling effect of the breaking up of estates is seized on by every report on the depressed state of agriculture as one, if not the chief, of its fundamental causes, not least by the latest report presented to the Minister by the Land Agents' Society. This memorandum is valuable for the moderation of its recommendations and the sensible manner in which its proposals are limited to readily practicable schemes. For, while it stresses the evil effect of heavy death duties, and the burden on the farmer of rates supporting institutions that concern him little, but the Nation as a whole much, it realizes that questions of protection, subsidies and guarantees have been, anyway temporarily, thrust aside and are not to be regarded as subjects of immediate practical policy. The hope is expressed that the findings of the Linlithgow Committee and the Royal Commission on Prices will enable measures to be taken remedying the second primary difficulty of the farmer, namely, his inability to produce food, which, in competition with imported and preserved foods, can be sold to leave a fair margin of profit. The high railway rates--in many cases as high from the country to London as by seas from New Zealand to Great Britain--are alone a formidable obstacle to agricultural success. But these questions the report leaves to be fought out on the wider stage of political controversy, to which, with the labyrinthine interests involved, they really belong....."

Cotton Consumption

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 19 says: "Trade authorities have watched with no little interest the shifting and changing of Government figures for 'cotton consumption.' There has been a growing lack of belief in these figures as real market indicators for the good reason that it is not believed that they correspond very closely to actual demand any more than the figures for 'employed spindles' throw a very clear light upon employment. Still they have been thought to indicate something and have been followed with attention accordingly. In the last two months' reports what appear to be curious discrepancies have made themselves evident. The March figures showed a decline of about 30,000 bales from the preceding month, while the April figures show an increase of 15,000 from March. The amount of cotton consumed was thus apparently falling off, according to Government figures, at a time when trade and other authorities were quite clear in their own minds that demand for cotton was increasing. At the same time consumption of cotton has apparently tended to increase when the public supposed that current demands were declining. There

is a difficulty here of reconciling Government statistics with real truth which has often made its appearance in other fields. Have Government statisticians first fallen into an error on one side of the case and then made up for it by offsetting with a compensating error on the other side? It would not be the first time that they have resorted to some such method of 'evening up' their figures. Still a situation of this sort is not conducive to success or accuracy in 'forecasting' or to availability and serviceability in the use of Government statistical returns. Why is it that everything about cotton, like almost everything about sugar, seems to inspire those who are concerned with it to imaginative efforts of the Munchausen variety? It seems too bad that our Government figures can not be brought within the range of probabilities and kept there."

Food Prices

The retail food index issued by the U. S. Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that there was a decrease of about two-tenths of 1 per cent in the retail cost of food in April, 1925, as compared with March, 1925. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 151.1 in March and 150.8 in April. For the year period, April 15, 1924 to April 15, 1925, the increase in all articles of food combined was approximately 7 per cent. For the twelve-year period, April 15, 1913 to April 15, 1925, the increase in all articles of food combined was about 54 per cent.

Foreign Trade

Seven countries--Great Britain, Canada, Germany, France, Jap. Cuba, and Italy--purchased nearly two-thirds of American exports in 1924, nearly 3 billion dollar's worth according to an analysis of the world trade of the United States published by the foriegn commerce department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. These seven countries in recent years have invariably been found among the country's ten leading customers, with the single exception of Germany from 1915 through 1919. In 1924 thirty-five countries each purchased more than ten million dollars' worth of American merchandise--96% of all shipped abroad--the 80-odd markets in the rest of the world taking only 4% of America's total exports. A few import records were made in 1924. A greater amount of standard newsprint paper, 2,714,-000,000 pounds, at the highest value, $101,000,000, was imported in 1924 than in any other year. Record imports of bananas were also made last year--47,384,000 bunches, valued at $22,074,000--exceeding the previous quantity record of 46,640,000 bunches made in 1914, and the previous high value of $19,739,000, set in 1923. Imports of olives last year amounted to 8,093,000 gallons, 21% greater than the previous high mark set in 1916. The value, $5,090,000, also was slig ly higher than the old record of 1920. The country also imported mor figs than ever before--42,465,000 pounds. The amount of cane sugar imported in 1924-- 8,272,000,000 pounds -- was exceeded only by the huge imports of 1922, when 9,722,000,000 pounds were received.

Fruit and Vegetable Prices in New York

"New York housewives pay retail prices for fruits and vegetables that are practically double the wholesale prices, according to findings of the Port of New York Authority, made public May 16. The survey of local fruit and vegetable prices, both wholesale and retail, extended over a period of two years. The results are shown in a

pamphlet entitled, "Some Facts About Margins and Costs." The study was made by the Port Authority in connection with its plans for effecting economic changes in New York City's facilities for distribution. A summary of the survey says: "It has been found that the consumer in New York and vicinity is to-day paying practically twice the wholesale value for his fruits and vegetables. Fourteen of the principal fruits and vegetables in common use formed the bases of the study and it is revealed that for these commodities the cost of distribution, or the 'spread' between the wholesale price and the cost to the consumer is 47 per cent. of the ultimate retail price. Such high city margins obviously must impose a heavy burden on the average family through its food bill. Public spokesmen have blamed the excessive cost of distributing food upon high cartage and handling charges, middlemen's profits, wastage, spoilage, too many retail dealers, or too much credit and delivery. This study shows just how important some of these elements are in the cost to the consumer. It costs more to carry a sack of potatoes ten miles in New York than to haul it 1,100 miles from Michigan....." (New York Times, May 19.)

Land Economics Research Institute

The New York Times of May 17 says: "Five years ago Dr. Richard T. Ely, Professor of Economics at the University of Wisconsin, founded the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities as a privately endowed institution, organized for the purpose of investigating the economic problems growing out of the land and public utility resources of the United States, which are declared to represent an estimated total value in excess of $150,000,000,000. Since the organization of the institute many studies and investigations have been made by the members of its staff in the special fields of economic inquiry with which it is concerned, and reports of the studies have in many instances been published. On the basis of the accomplishments thus far achieved, which it believes give ample demonstration of the value of an organized movement for economic research of this nature, the institute has opened a campaign to raise an endowment fund sufficiently large to enable it to carry on its work along broader and more fundamental lines. As yet, it is pointed out, the institute has been able only to scratch the surface of the facts to be studied and to devote attention to only a few of the many questions calling for answers. Apart from the solution of general economic problems in the sphere of public utilities and land utilization and from the formulation of principles applicable to such questions, one of the most important and far-reaching aims of the institute is to throw light on the matter of land investments. This question, it is emphasized, has not only an interest for the economic student and for the industrial world, but it is also a matter for governmental concern and, chief of all, of the utmost importance to the investor, whether the latter is a farmer, real estate operator or is in any other manner interested in land investments or development....."

Marketing in Ireland

The Farmers' Gazette (Dublin) for May 2 says: "Satisfactory marketing is an essential to efficient production, if Irish farming is to make the progress it should. In the sale of many commodities produce are placed at great disadvantage. This may be due to heavy transport

charges, to defects in handling while in transit, or inadvertence or carelessness on the part of the producers themselves. The latter, as a body, are prone to throw the blame for disappointing returns on to some outside agency. In some instances they may have just cause for complaint, but not infrequently failure to secure satisfactory return is due to defects which it is in their own power to remedy. The prices which Irish produce is fetching in the chief British markets from week to week are not so disheartening as some people would have us believe. Irish bacon, Irish creamery butter in the season, and Irish eggs, rank well in market quotations, and the standard of quality is improving rather than deteriorating. It is an undoubted fact that the competition of other supplying countries is keener than ever, and that a higher standard of excellence, as well as a more even distribution of supply over the year is called for....."

Packers' Products in British Market.

A London dispatch on the protest lodged by the Chicago packers against the new food regulations proposed by the British Health Ministry, says: ".....Behind the American protests is a story of the keenest rivalry between the Chicago meat interests and the Danes, in which the packers are playing a slowly losing game. Originally, all the bacon and ham consumed in Great Britain originated in America, or was raised at home. The Danes went out to gain a foot-hold in the British market. They sent to England for English pigs, they employed English curers to teach them to cure hams and bacon according to the British fancy, and they equipped themselves to deliver meats to England in the freshest possible condition. They were not handicapped by distance from their customers, and they organized their shipments so as to have them cleared every week. The Danes went after the best trade, and they landed it. Their example was subsequently followed by Sweden and Holland. The quality of American hams and bacon sold in England is, on the whole, of a lower grade, selling for prices which the Danes can not meet. Even increasing the selling price by nearly a cent a pound will not squeeze the American product out of the market. But it will give the Danes, Dutch and Swedes a better chance to compete. Only two years ago American bacon still led all others in quantity, now the Danes occupy first place. One of the British arguments for the abolition of borax as a preservative is that it will force the American packers to send a better grade of ham and bacon to England, and so will aid them to regain their mastery of the English market."

Russian Economic Position

An editorial in The New Republic for May 20 says: "Whatever may be happening politically in Russia, it is evident that the economic policy of the Soviets is taking a new swing to the right. The announcement of concessions to foreign capital for mineral exploitation in Siberia, althouhg not adequately confirmed from the side of the foreign concessionaries, is significant as indicating what the Soviet authorities are willing to do, and desire to do. For gold and silver and platinum--for a slender percentage of the output--they offer an arrangement with scarcely a chemical trace of communism in it. Still more significant is the reported decision to close a friendly eye upon the development of a rich peasant class, and to recognize the status

as citizen of the industrial employer of labor. The foreign concessionary might be regarded as an intrusive exception in the Soviet scheme, a gold filling in the communistic jaw. Not so the petty agricultural and industrial capitalism that the recent broadening of the new economic policy makes room for. When the land begins to be penetrated with farmers who have engrossed and enriched their holdings, when private factories rub up against the State factories in the towns and cities, the integrity of the communistic system will have been badly shattered. The country will be on the threshold of a development which, to communistic purists, will look very like western capitalism. What we may be quite sure of is that there is at present a swing to the right. We do not know how soon a swing to the left may ensue, or how far it may go..... And this, many economists urge, is very little. Communistic agriculture is a lost cause. Communistic trade is yielding ground, and now communistic industry is weakening. In the end, it is argued, the Russians will have learned the error of their ways and come back to the tried and true principles of private enterprise whether a counter revolution takes place or not."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 19: Chicago hog prices closed at $13 for the top; bulk of sales $12.50 to $12.90; medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.40; butcher cows and heifers $4.50 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.75; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $11; fat lambs $11 to $13; spring lambs $13.50 to $15.75; yearlings $8.50 to $11.50; fat ewes $5 to $8.25.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes sold at $6.25 to $7.25 per barrel to jobbers in leading markets. Various varieties of strawberries from Maryland and Virginia ranged 10¢ to 20¢ quart basis, with a top of $22¢ to 25¢ for Maryland Klondikes in New York. Imperial Valley of California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $8 to $10 per standard crate of 45 melons. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions mostly $3.50 to $3.65 per crate in consuming centers. Virginia Wakefield cabbage $2 to $2.50 per crate in eastern markets, low as $1.75 in New York, f. o. b. sales at Norfolk ranged $1.75 to $2.00

Grain markets quoted May 19, 1925. No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.63 1/2 to $1.88 1/2. No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.90 1/2, St. Louis $1.97; Kansas City $1.67 to $1.71. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.65; St. Louis $1.67 1/2; Kansas City $1.61 to $1.73. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.10; Minneapolis $1.05 to $1.07. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.15 1/2 to $1.16 1/2; St. Louis $1.15 1/2; Kansas City $1.09 1/2 to $1.12. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.10 1/2 to $1.14; Minneapolis $1.09 to $1.12. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.14 1/2; Kansas City $1.09; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.12 to $1.13. No. 3 white oats Chicago 42 3/4 to 45¢; Minneapolis 41 7/8 to 42 3/8¢; St. Louis 46 1/2¢; No. 2 white oats Kansas City 50 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 43 points, closing at 23.63¢ per lb. New York May future contracts up 53 points, closing at 22.90¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 44 Section 1 May 21, 1925.

LIVERPOOL TO KEEP COTTON AGREEMENT

An Associated Press dispatch from London to-day says: "At a meeting of the signers of the Universal Cotton Standards Agreement held at the American Embassy May 20 it was announced that the Liverpool Cotton Association had cancelled the notice it had previously given of its intentions to withdraw from the agreement. It was announced that the Liverpool Cotton Association had signed a supplemental agreement, and that the Cotton Committee of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Association of England had recommended that the federation take similar action. The signers of the universal cotton standards agreement approved various amendments recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture. It was decided that the standards should operate for a period of two years instead of for one year. The next meeting was fixed for March, 1927. H. C. Taylor of the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington and E. A. Foley, representative of the department at London, attended the meeting. Representatives of cotton associations of Liverpool, Manchester, Havre, Bremen, Barcelona, Rotterdam, Ghent and of the Italian Association of Master Cotton Spinners were present."

BRADFUTE ON WHEAT CROP

The press to-day reports: "O. E. Bradfute, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation and member of the President's Agricultural Commission, who conferred with President Coolidge at the White House, predicted yesterday that the winter wheat yield would be even less than has been estimated by the Government. He said he based his prediction on reports received by his organization from the wheat growing sections. The wheat acreage, he added, had been cut by farmers, especially in the Northwest section.

"Mr. Bradfute said he talked about agricultural conditions generally with the President. The Agricultural Commission, which has been gathering data to make further recommendations for farm legislation, would not meet again before autumn, he said, unless some emergency arose or the President summoned it earlier. Mr. Coolidge had no particular legislation in mind, Mr. Bradfute said, and, according to his viewpoint, the cooperative movement was growing in popularity all the time."

JAPAN TAKES $1.40 WHEAT

A Seattle dispatch to the press to-day states that sales of new-crop Washington wheat have been completed for Japanese export at $1.40 a bushel, against $1.15 this date a year ago. Japanese buyers are bidding $1.30 quite freely. A strong opening is indicated for 1925 wheat.

GLENN FRANK AS WISCONSIN HEAD

Glenn Frank, editor of the Century Magazine, May 20 announced that he would accept the position of president of the Univeristy of Wisconsin. (Press, May 21.)

Section 2

Coffee and Sugar

Alan H. Temple, writing in Commerce and Funance for May 20, says: "Coffee has been very high but it has recently had a severe decline and those who are in the coffee business are wondering whether it is low enough to justify 'stocking up.' Precise or even approximate knowledge of the supply is unobtainable. The Brazilian Government, the Government of the State of Sao Paulo and the coffee merchants of Brazil all seem obsessed with the plea that America, the largest consumer, is determined to buy its coffee at a price that is unfair to the Brazilian coffee grower. To prevent this various measures for what is called 'The Defense of Coffee' have been adopted or advocated in South America. The credit of Brazil and the State of Sao Paulo have from time to time been pledged for loans whose proceeds have been used to support the market. This support has been given by buying either futures or spot coffee and latterly by rationing out the Brazilian stocks so that no more than a limited maximum is released for export each week. But despite these efforts and the relatively small crops recently produced and in prospect the market has been gradually falling for several months past. It has now reached a level at which some well informed coffee merchants think American distributors and roasters ought to commence buying to replenish their admittedly small stocks. But this view is not likely to be accepted until prices decline further unless the Brazilians can convince the consumers of the United States that coffee is worth as much or more than it is selling for. No open minded American will deny that the coffee planters have a moral and legal right to demand a fair and profitable price for their product or to combine in an effort to obtain such a price. But coercive action always provokes resistance and unless the reasonableness of the price demanded is made clear, those who are able to pay it will buy as sparingly as possible and may ultimately refuse to buy it all. This explains why the American consumers are not buying and are not likely to buy coffee freely even at the decline recently established..... Americans do not object to paying a fair price, but they have got to be convinced of its fairness, and they resent any attempt to squeeze their pocketbooks by creating an artificial scarcity of coffee or anything else .....

"In sugar the position is different. All the ascertainable facts are published. The Cuban crop is a large one and the total world's supply for this year is somewhat in excess of last year's consumption. But it is generally admitted that prices are below the cost of production. It is also admitted that the low prices will increase the consumption, especially in Europe where there is a rapid improvement in economic conditions and in India where the prosperity is exceptional. As the use of and demand for sugar is constantly growing it is almost self evident that it can not long remain below the cost of production and the only reason for not buying it that we have heard is that 'the long interest is so large.' As a statement of fact this is true, but as a reason it is not convincing. The net long interest in any commodity must always exceed the short interest by exactly the quantity of the commodity in existence. It can not be an ounce more or

less.... The result is that through the medium of the futures market the much talked of sugar surplus is already disposed of to those who are willing to hold it for higher prices. To the extent of these purchases the supply available at present prices has been reduced and the effect will be apparent as soon as the daily output of the centrals becomes less than the daily consumption. This is a condition that is rapidly approaching and higher prices for sugar are indicated upon its arrival."

Cooperative Marketing of Eggs

An editorial in Chicago Dairy Produce for May 12 says: "Cooperative marketing is due to receive a lot more attention, and especially the cooperative marketing of eggs. The Government Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been doing a lot of work in the South and recently has taken up with local authorities the work in Illinois. Government officials, fortunately for the industry and all concerned and especially for the producer or farmer, is committed to a longtime program which seeks to better conditions without disturbing the present well established agencies for marketing eggs. Government officials recognize that there must be a time of preparation for cooperative marketing. Problems in different States and sections are different and the first step is to solve those problems. To jump into cooperative marketing, as many seem to think the term means, would be to open the way for exploitation of the farmer that would mean losses and disaster to him, and discouragement that would delay progress..... In Illinois there is a plan, now being actively pushed, to organize shipping districts in order to insure prompt delivery of eggs to central shipping points. The plan includes 'schools' that will bring to the farmer the knowledge he should have of the business in which he is engaged, and with the knowledge will come better eggs and more satisfaction and profit to producers and dealers."

2 An editorial in Pacific Rural Press for May 9 says: "There is a cooperative down in Tulare county which just about squares with that ideal of cooperation wherein members are bound by service rather than contract, and where the force used is that of individual desire. It is popularly called the Hen Coop, but the name when correctly written out, is Tulare Cooperative Poultry Association..... They have good eggs, of course. They candle them carefully, and pay by grade. They rush them to market promptly, using refrigerated trucks to Los Angeles, and occasional express shipments to San Francisco. They do not consign anything, but sell for cash at Tulare, and get within seven cents of the Los Angeles price, Director Foss says. This is too much, and must be whittled, Mr. Foss believes, but it holds about 250 members by the string of self-interest only. If you want to join this co-op., you buy one share of stock for $25. You get 8 per cent interest on this investment, and any further dividends are sprinkled along as an addition to the price of eggs or poultry. If a member decides to try some other market there is no fuss about it. Pretty soon he will be back, Mr. Foss says, wanting to buy some feed or supplies."

Palestine-Russian Relations

A Jerusalem dispatch to the press of May 20 sates that shipment May 19 of 3,000 cases of oranges from Palestine to Soviet Russia marked the re-establishment of commercial relations between the two countries. Prior to the war Palestine conbinually exported oranges to various ports of Russia. Due to the war, however, business relations between Palestine and Russia ceased. It is expected Palestine will resume its former relations with Russia.

Spanish Olive Oil Exports

A Madrid dispatch to the press of May 20 states that a decree published May 19 for the protection of the national olive oil industry allows free exportation of oils with registered national trademarks and regulates the production, blending and sale of such oils.

World Wheat

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 20 says: "If Europe does not produce a crop of wheat much larger than last year then the wheat market must face an adjustment of supply to demand as close as that of the present season. Prices, of course, must correspond ultimately to true conditions. There is no sense in making reckless predictions, but reasonable deductions can be drawn from the facts. World acreage of winter wheat has been constantly held up as considerably larger than that of last year; it has been just as constantly shown in these columns that when the deduction for winter killing in the United States were made the world acreage would be actually smaller. Since the May 1 estimate of winter wheat acreage in the United States was made the Department of Agriculture has just put out a revised statement of the acreage of winter wheat in the northern hemisphere. The total area now is 126,000,000 acres against 128,000,000 a year ago and 130,000,000 two years ago. The department's figures also show that, based on a ten-year average, the European outlook is for a harvest of one per cent. less than what was produced in 1924. That being so, the European situation is a little worse than last year and a little more wheat must be imported The question now is how will the exporting countries meet the situation? Forty-two million bushels are shorn from the crop of India, which country harvests even before our southernmost fields. The May 1 official estimate for the United States was for 145,000,000 bushels less of winter wheat than a year ago. The outlook for our spring wheat is called favorable, although the supply of reserve moisture is very limited. If, as is claimed now, there are 20,500,000 acres seeded to spring wheat an average crop would be 25,000,000 bushels under the harvest of last year. India and the United States together then show at least 212,000,000 bushels less than a year ago, In the last harvest Australia and Argentina had good crops, aggregating 350,000,000 bushels, against 370,000,000 the year before. They are not apt to have three big crops in succession, but if there is a large one this year it could hardly exceed 1923, which was 20,000,000 bushels more than last year. This would still leave a deficiency of 192,000,000 bushels, compared with last year, for Canada to make up. Canada can do this only by breaking all records. If she produces an average crop she can not make up 40 per cent of the deficiency. These figures, of course, are based

on the law of averages, which are fairly safe in an estimate of production over a series of years, but are extremely uncertain for any one year. But the weight of experience at least is against the supply of wheat and points to a tight adjustment, which only unusual weather can overcome."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 20: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.35 for the top and $12 to $12.25 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $6.25 to $10.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.50 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.50; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $11.50. Fat lambs $11.25 to $13.25; spring lambs $13.50 to $15.75; yearlings $8.50 to $11.50; fat ewes $5 to $8.25.

Slat barrels of South Carolina Irish Cobblers sold mostly at $5.25 to $5.50, top of $6.50 in Boston; $4.50 f. o. b. Meggett section. Virginia and Maryland various varieties of strawberries 10 to 18¢ quart basis in eastern markets. Delaware Klondikes 20 to 23¢ in New York. Virginia Wakefield cabbage $2 to $2.75 per barrel crate in eastern markets, low as $1.50 in Baltimore; $1.75 to $2.00 f. o. b. Norfolk. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions generally 15¢ to 25¢ lower at $3.25 to $3.50 per crate in consuming centers. Florida tomatoes declined sharply in city markets but held steady at shipping points.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41 1/2¢; Chicago 40 1/2¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted May 20: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.65 to $1.90. No. 2 red winter Kansas City $1.67. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.58 3/4 to $1.59 1/2. Kansas City $1.61 to $1.70. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.06 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis $1.05 to $1.07. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 3/4 to $1.17 1/2; St. Louis $1.15 to $1.16. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 1/2. No. 2 white corn $1.14 1/2 St. Louis; Kansas City $1.09 1/2. No. 3 white oats Chicago 44 1/4 to 45 1/2¢; Minneapolis 41 7/8 to 42 3/8¢; St. Louis 46 to 46 1/2¢; Kansas City 47¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 23 points, closing at 23.86¢ per lb. New York May future contracts advanced 40 points, closing at 23.30¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 20,	May 19,	May 20, 1924.
20 Industrials	128.68	128.38	88.33
20 R. R. stocks	98.03	97.93	81.37

(Wall St. Jour., May 21.)

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Vol. XVII, No. 45 Section 1 May 22, 1925.

DEPARTMENT EFFORTS COMMENDED At the general meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce yesterday a resolution was adopted by the domestic distribution group asking a curb on wild speculation in grain exchanges. The resolution asked the chamber to commend the efforts of the Department of Agridulture in this direction. "The destructive effects of incessant wild speculative fluctuations in price of grain," the resolution set forth, "upon all interests connected with the production, conversion, distribution and export of our vast cereal crops and upon our foreign commerce generally, is so self-evident as to demand prompt remedial measures by the principal grain exchanges. We commend the efforts of the Department of Agriculture to bring about such voluntary constructive action." The resolution was signed by Barnard J. Rothwell, Boston Chamber of Commerce; Robert R. Clark, American Corn Millers federation, St. Joseph, Mo.; Edward A. Filene, Boston Chamber of Commerce; Ralph S. Bauer, Lynn (Mass.) chamber; O. E. Bradfute, Chicago, and H. Barnard, American Bankers Association, Chicago. (Press, May 22.)

HOOVER ON GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION Speaking as a business man rather than as the head of a Government department, Secretary Hoover last night talked before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States about waste in Government. One of the greatest weaknesses in Government organization, the Secretary declared, is the division of authority over services directed to the same major purpose by scattering them through unrelated groups. He illustrated his point by citing what he termed a partial collection of misfits. For instance, he said, there are fourteen bureaus or agencies charged with public works construction and they are located in nine different departments. Eight conservation bureaus are in five departments, fourteen merchant marine bureaus in six departments, and six educational agencies in four departments. "It is entirely secondary what department these groups are in," the Secretary declared. "The big thing, is to bring these kindred agencies together under one authority so that their overlapping edges can be clipped and their fights stopped. No one familiar with the internal workings of the departments will deny the direct waste which comes from overlap and friction as the result of the present lack of coordination of these activities..... There are a great many bureaus at Washington which are given to important economic research. The boundary lines which separate these bureaus one from another are necessarily indeterminate..... If investigation of the same general character had been concentrated, one of the recent widespread questionnaires would never have been sent out, because, so far as the information desired could ever be effectively collected, it was already in the hands of the Government.....

"There is one side of the Federal Government that is certainly not sufficiently expanded to-day--that is scientific and economic research and the promotion of public interest by voluntary cooperation with the community at large. This is never an encroachment upon the rights of individuals. It can truly be better organized, but to-day the whole of our activities in these directions involve less than 3 per cent of our Federal budget--and they bring returns to the taxpayer not in few per cent but in hundreds of per cent every year."

Section 2

Cotton Growers to Tour Europe

A commission of members of the American Cotton Growers' Association will leave New York on Saturday for Cherbourg. The primary purpose of the trip is to visit the foreign offices of the American Cotton Growers' Exchange and to participate in the general cotton conference in Vienna next month. The exchange is composed of twelve statewide or regional associations having a total membership of approximately 250,000 growers and handling about 1,000,000 bales of cotton annually. The members of the commission.....will visit Cherbourg, Vienna, Milan, Berlin, Copenhagen, The Hague, Bremen, Brussels, Ghent, Paris, Barcelona, Havre, London, Liverpool and Southampton returning to the United States July 14. (Press, May 21)

Dairy Progress

An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for May 7 says: "To those of us who have witnessed the progress of the dairy industry in the Pacific Coast States over a period of more than twenty-five years there has been no greater surprise than that which has taken place between California and the States of Washington and Oregon. Up to within a few years ago our sister States in the North furnished a big outlet for California butter. California in those days produced a surplus of butter, especially during the early spring months. Later on in the season when the eastern flush came on they drew from that direction, so that the bulk of the butter consumed, particularly in case of Washington, was produced in other States. But while the North was drawing butter from outside States something was going on up there. The rich valley lands were being cleared of their timber. Grasses and clovers took its place and then came the cows. These were followed by milk condensaries as a result of the excellent quality of the milk for condensing purposes. When the condensaries became flooded with milk, butter production found its opportunity to the extent that it has reversed the former order of things. Instead of buying California butter Washington is almost a steady shipper to our markets and Oregon is also a liberal contributor. It is reported that 48,000 farmers in Washington make a living--and no doubt a profit as well--out of dairy cows. The development of the dairy industry in the extreme Northwest will be worth watching. We predict that within the next 25 years Washington and Oregon will be to the Pacific coast in dairy production what Minnesota and Wisconsin are to the East."

England Guards Meat Supply

The press of May 20 states that the public health meat regulations of 1924 for England are now in effect. The intention is to secure such handling of meat as shall protect it from any contamination. The definition of the term "meat" is so wide that it must involve shopkeepers in considerable new responsibilities. "Meat" is defined as the flesh of cattle, swine, sheep or goats, including bacon and ham and edible offal and fat, that is sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and "animal" means any animal from which meat is derived. Thus lard, margarin and other fats, preserved meats, bacon, hams and sausages, come within the regulations.

Finland's Lumber Industry

John Saari, of Portland, Ore., who recently returned from an investigation of the lumber trade of Finland, sums up his reasons for urging the development of the Finland source of lumber supply for America as follows: "(1) Finland has the largest accessible stand of merchantable timber in Europe; (2) Finland may increase her cut by 50 per cent without cutting more than the annual growth; (3) a very large per cent of Finland's forest is virgin and old growth; (4) Finland's lumber industry is well developed and may be expanded without great inconvenience; (5) Finland has a large supply of good and efficient labor; (6) Finland has a great many good harbors and excellent shipping facilities, and (7) the Finish business men are reliable and the lumbermen are known to be careful and dependable shippers." (N. Y. Times, May 11.)

Grain Marketing Investigation

An editorial in Boston Financial News for May 19 says: "..... The only result of the investigation is his (Secretary Jardine) advice to the Chicago Board of Trade and other like institutions to amend their rules so as to limit the spread between the high and low prices in any one day. A similar rule is now in force on the New York Cotton Exchange, where the spread is limited to 200 points. It has worked advantageously in checking a runaway market in either direction, so that operators have had an opportunity for second thought overnight..... This is something quite different from an attempt to artificially name a maximum and minimum price. Secretary Jardine has no intention of doing anything of that kind, for he well knows that it could not possibly succeed. Artificial price-making has never been successful in the world's history, for it produces a distortion, for which there must be some compensation in one form or another..... The whole truth of the matter is that there is nothing anybody can do about it. If restrictive laws are made governing Chicago and other United States grain exchanges, it will simply mean that speculation will shift to Winnipeg, for if the people want to speculate, they will speculate. They did it in Joseph's time, and they have been doing it ever since. It is just plain human nature. At the end of a deal somebody is left holding the bag, and he, and those in similar predicaments are the ones who do the wailing and gnashing of teeth. There is some sense in providing emergency brakes when the speculative machine gets going too fast in either direction, but beyond that it is best left alone."

Illinois Wheat Pool

An editorial in The Prairie Farmer for May 16 says: "A preliminary report on the proposed wheat pool for Eastern Illinois was approved by the executive committee of the Illinois Agricultural Association last week. The organization work for such a pool will undoubtedly be started in the near future if the wheat growers of that section show an interest in such an organization. Such a pool will probably be organized as an Illinois pool but for the time being all the marketing work will be handled through the sales agency of the Indiana wheat pool. The Indiana organization has functioned efficiently during the past year, and with the membership more than

doubled, it will be able to handle the 1925 crop to still better advantage. The wheat grown in the Illinois border counties is of the same general type and quality as that of Indiana and goes to the same markets. It can be marketed better through the pool than it is now being marketed by farmers individually. Such an auxiliary pool will be the start of a general marketing program for Illinois."

Merritt and Cooperative Marketing

"The Cooperative Doctor" is the title which Robert Welles Ritchie applies to Ralph P. Merritt in an extensive interview with the latter, published in The Country Gentleman for May 23. Mr. Ritchie says in part: "When the price-inflation bubble broke in 1920-21 the California Rice Growers' Association found itself in deep trouble. They turned to the young business man they had dealt with during the war; asked him to come in and reorganize the association on a firm business basis. Merritt did. Then the raisin growers sent up a cry for him. The cooperative, which is one of the greatest in the State, was near going under. All California has watched the winning fight Merritt made to reestablish the raisin growers on a solvent basis. His first step was to go before Los Angeles and San Francisco bankers and talk loans in terms of millions. There lies the fundamental philosophy of Merritt's scheme for injecting big business methods in agricultural production. You can not, says he, profess to enter the world market with a product of the soil on a shoestring capitalization which would not float the manufacture of mousetraps. Adequate capital. Rigorous economy. Stabilizing of the trade to maintain the solidity of your bonds. These are the foundation stones Merritt would have any aggregation of producers lay down before venturing upon the big business of growing and distributing agricultural commodities."

Reclamation Legislation

"McNary and the Wolves" is the title of a full-page editorial on reclamation legislation in The Country Gentleman for May 23. This says in part: "Once more the reclamation wolves are beginning to gather in packs to plan their raid upon the corrals of the public treasury next winter when the snows lie deep in the canyons, when game is scarce in the timberlands--when the new Congress assembles..... Their arguments sound so plausible that they have misled some good and eminent men. Senator Charles Linza McNary, from Oregon, is a notable example. He has listened to the wolves who made their voices soft by eating chalk and has been prevailed upon to sponsor a reclamation bill in the next Congress. He has already begun his campaign by issuing a statement to the press advocating a national policy of reclamation to take care of all the reclamation projects of the future by means of a revolving fund of anywhere from $350,000,000 to $500,000,000, appropriated from the Federal Treasury..... In the twenty-three years which have elapsed since the Reclamation act went into effect the total fund has amounted to more than $150,000,000, all of which has been spent. It was the intention of the act that this money should be paid back to the United States Treasury and be used as a perpetual revolving fund. That

is, settlers would buy the land and pay the Government. Unfortunately the framers of the act could not foresee the future. They never dreamed irrigation would cost so much, that speculators would boost prices so high or that the people who settled on the lands would find farming so unprofitable. They could not see all the troubles and the dissatisfaction that have arisen since. But instead of a revolving fund they find now they have a fund that has been spent and no one knows whether the Government will ever get it back. In a great many cases the Government has not even received the water rental for a number of years. And yet, despite all the unhappiness that has arisen out of the original Government venture into reclamation, a clamor will arise next winter to put the Government in deeper, than ever. The way has already been prepared in the shape of a little paragraph hidden away in one of the bills that was enacted by the last Congress to straighten out some of the difficulties on existing projects..... Thus the reclamation blanket is being stretched to cover the entire country. If every section gets its share of the pork none will have a chance to kick. It all smells of politics....."

Russia

An editorial on "Hard Facts and the Soviet" in The New York Times for May 20 says: "..... Communist economics within Russia has moved on toward bankruptcy. The peasant has been virtually recognized as owner of the land he tills and has recently been permitted to take on the role of employer of hired labor. In other words, the peasant is as much a 'capitalist' as he ever was. In the towns similar concessions have been made and are still being made to trade and industry. Factories are going back to their original owners on nominal leases, and here, too, the employment of labor for wages has been sanctioned. Only the key industries remain in Government hands, and it is on this point that we still need more light as to the significance of return. Is the creator of the Red Army to be entrusted with the last chance to show what nationalized industry can do? Or is the break-down beyond any man's saving? That is what we wait to see. One still encounters the statement that Russia must be brought back within the European fold because the Continent can not recover without Russia. Events are fast proving the contrary to be true. If Russia gets well, it will be because the way to recovery has been shown by the other nations. The countries of Western and Central Europe have got back to their feet because they have eschewed the Soviet example. They have set their face against root-and-branch revolution and the class struggle, and have made progress in rebuilding the shattered wealth of the Continent by the opposite of Moscow's nightmare economics The sufferings of the Russian people have operated as a salutary example to the rest of Europe. The recovery of Europe is now the outstanding indictment against the regime of force and failure at Moscow."

Silk Industry in France

The natural and artificial silk industries in France both made a very good showing last year, production figures being higher than at any time previously, according to the annual report of the Federation of Lyons Silk Manufacturers, a summary of which has just been received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its French information service. The writer of this report, Etienne Fougere, states that the natural silk industry in France shows no signs yet of having suffered from the competition of the artificial product

but that on the contrary there is reason to hope that the development in the output of artificial varieties may create a new demand without in any way diminishing the old demand for natural silk.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 21: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.50 for the top and $12.35 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $6.25 to $10.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.40 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.50; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $11.25; fat lambs $11 to $13.25; spring lambs $13.50 to $16; yearlings $8.75 to $11.75 and fat ewes $5 to $8.25.

South Carolina Cobblers $5.25 to $5.75 per barrel in eastern cities; $4.25 to $4.75 f. o. b. Meggett section. Florida Spaulding Rose mostly $6 to $6.50. New York sacked Round Whites closed at $1.25 to $1.50; with northern stock at $1.05 to $1.25 on the Chicago carlot market. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions averaged about 25¢ lower at $3 to $3.50 per crate. Imperial Valley of California Salmon Tint cantaloupes declined sharply at $7 to $8.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in a few markets. Virginia and Maryland various varieties of strawberries 12 to 20¢ quart basis in eastern cities. Virginia Wakefield cabbage ranged lower at $1.75 to $2.50 per barrel crate in eastern markets; $1.50 to $1.75 f. o. b. Norfolk.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 40 1/2¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted May 21: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.63 to $1.88. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.94 to $1.96; Kansas City $1.66 to $1.71. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.69 to $1.70; St. Louis $1.68; Kansas City $1.61 to $1.75. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.05 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.12 1/2; Minneapolis $1.05 to $1.07. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 to $1.17; St. Louis $1.14 1/2 to $1.15 1/2; Kansas City $1.10. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 to $1.15; Minneapolis $1.10 to $1.12. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.13 1/2 to $1.14; Kansas City $1.08; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.12 3/4. No. 3 white oats Chicago 43 1/2 to 45 1/2¢; Minneapolis 41 to 41 1/2¢; St. Louis 46 1/2 to 47¢; Kansas City 46 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 19 points, closing at 23.67¢ per lb. New York May future contracts down 15 points, closing at 23.15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 21,	May 20,	May 21, 1924.
20 Industrials	128.70	128.68	89.35
20 R. R. stocks	98.27	98.03	82.38

(Wall St. Jour., May 22.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 46 Section 1 May 23, 1925.

PACKERS APPEAL DECISION The press to-day states that the Armour and Swift group of packers May 22 entered an appeal in the District of Columbia Supreme Court seeking a more sweeping ruling against the packers' consent decree, recently suspended by the court. By their action, the packers seek to have the decree, which would divorce them from unrelated lines of business, set aside entirely. As the case now stands, the operation of the decree has been held up.

HOOVER ON GOVERNMENT NEEDS In his address on Government administration before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, May 21, Secretary Hoover said: "What we need are three primary reforms; first, to group together all agencies having the same predominant major purpose under the same administrative supervision; second, to separate the semi-judicial and the semi-legislative and advisory functions from the administrative functions, placing the former under joint minds, the latter under single responsibility; and third, we should relieve the President of a vast amount of direct administrative labor....."

An editorial on the subject in to-day's New York Times says: "How are these reforms, or any of them, to come about?....Routine and inertia are official characteristics. Nobody wants his own comfortable coign of vantage disturbed. Mr. Harding had to rebuke the propagandists of the circumlocution offices; but the propaganda went on. Put our service into such and such a department? Never! So the timid hearts of Congressmen were wrung by their friends in office. It may be suspected that Mr Hoover is incorrect in attributing to the official objectors the patriotic feeling of Artemus Ward about his first wife's relations. He says neatly that officials favor every detail of reorganization except that which touches their own bureau or sphere of activity. Collectively, they form a great mass of log-rollers against reform. Mr. Hoover can only suggest the appointment of another board or Congressional committee to investigate and report and add to the infinite universe of waste paper....."

BRITISH CO-OPERATIVES The Cooperative Wholesale Society Limited, and the Scottish Cooperative Wholesale Society Limited, which are federations of the retail cooperative societies of England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland, according to information issued to-day by the Bankers Trust Company, transacted business in 1924 of over 90,000,000 pounds. The shares are owned by 1,453 retail societies, which have a membership of over 4,400,000 persons. The net profit of the wholesale societies accrues to the retail cooperative societies and through them to their membership. The British Cooperative Wholesale Society deals in practically every household commodity. It owns factories for the manufacture of boots and shoes, leather, hosiery, underclothing, woolen clothes, cotton clothes, flannels, ready-made clothing, furniture, hardware, paint, soaps, margarine, candles, starch, flour, biscuits, sweets, preserves, peel, pickles, vinegar, cocoa, chocolate, lard, tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, snuff, cutlery, etc; also printing, lithographing and bookbinding works, fruit and vegetable farms, milk depots, colliery, tea plantations in India and Ceylon, estates in West Africa, etc.

Section 2

British Food Program — A London dispatch to the press of May 22 states that the British Government intends to present in the House of Commons shortly "a large program of urgent and important legislation" in connection with the recent report of the Royal Commission on Food, Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin said May 21 in replying to a question. The query which prompted the announcement was whether the Government would give Parliamentary facilities to a private member bill for the control of trusts and combines

British Silk Duty — A London dispatch to the press of May 22 states that announcement was made on May 21 by the Treasury that as the outgrowth of conferences between Winston Spencer Churchill, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and representatives of the leading silk interests and of the London Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Churchill purposes to reduce the customs duty on made-up articles from 33 1-3 per cent to 10 per cent, where the value of the silk or artificial silk does not exceed 20 per cent of the value of the article, and to 2 per cent if it does not exceed 5 per cent of the value. It is also purposed to reduce the duty on raw silk from 4 shillings to 3 shillings per pound, with proportionate reductions on silk yarn, but the duty on artificial silk tissue will remain 3 shillings 6 pence per pound.

Cotton in Egypt — An Alexandria dispatch to the press of May 21 says: "Although the cotton season is now more or less at an end and the trade is doing next to nothing in the market for at any rate the time being, there has been some recovery in prices recently. Speculators have kept actively at work, the volume of business in progress being quite extensive, though what has been behind the fresh buying is not very clear. Some very definite ideas have already been formed in regard to the new crops both here and in America, and they are hardly of a character to encourage further speculation. Under anything like normal conditions there will be big crops, with the present season's shortage of sakelaridis remedied by at least 1,200,000 feddans planted with that cotton, the difference in acreage being, of course, at the expense of Zagora and similar types. Speculators have no due cause, therefore, to reckon on a shortage of supplies next season to justify prices at any such level as that at which they are still standing. But there is yet plenty of time for the market to adjust its views to the statistical outlook before the new season opens."

Fertilizer Consolidations — An editorial in The American Fertilizer for May 16 says: "The progress made in effecting the consolidation of the fertilizer associations is convincing proof that the project appeals to the judgment of the manufacturers. The new plan is being approved not only by the larger gathering of the old associations in conventions, but by the local groups in every part of the territory. This general acceptance of the projected organization is a credit to the committees which worked out the details. The educational work carried on by the soil improvement committee will be the most important undertaking of the new association, as it has been with the old associations. Every section will have a voice in carrying on this work, and will receive a fair share of the publicity which the committee will originate. At the same time the association will be able to cultivate new fields, and extend the use of commercial fertilizers into States where they are now almost unknown. In other lines of effort the united association will be much more influential than the two sectional

associations, and will fittingly represent the common interests and the common problems of the industry. It is a happy circumstance that this union is consummated at a time when the industry is arising from the worst period of depression in its history, and is looking forward to a period of expansion and prosperity."

Grain Market Theodore M. Knappen is the author of a spectacular article entitled "Does Wheat Gambling Sound the Knell of Market Manipulation?" in The Magazine of Wall Street for May 23. He says in part: "On March 2, Wheat leaped off a precipice. Its fall was retarded by a few jagged rocks and feeble bushes of market dope encountered on the way down--but by April 2 it hit the bottom of the 65-cent plunge. 'Contemplate that cliff,' said a veteran of the pits, one of the leading grain market students of America to the writer, 'and mark it well. It is the monument of the passing of manipulated speculation. Perhaps the grain exchanges as we know them will be found under the monument, too. You may safely say that America has seen its last speculative raid on the staff of life. The pitcher was taken to the well once too often. All the bunk has been stripped from the unctuous palaver about supply and demand making the grain market. The great bull market in wheat that reached its pinnacle in the last days of January and its near-summit in the opening days of March was purely a speculators' market, and the price was entirely made by the downright gambling type of speculation. Above $1.60 May wheat was as purely an artificial fabric as a stage landscape. Above that price it was the product of gambling--and gambling with loaded dice, stacked decks, knock-out drops and gunplay. Just common gamblers made the price of wheat and flour, upset and kicked about the great flour milling industry, exacted bread money from millions, debauched the sense of values and the belief in thrift of hosts of young men and women, and rifled the pockets of a countless number of "little people"...I mean that manipulative speculation in grains is as good as numbered among the dead. The investigation that the Department of Agriculture is now making into the meteoric ascent and descent of wheat between November and April will bring out such conclusive evidence of the heartless, inexcusable and economically destructive manipulation of the price by men who neither raise, sell, distribute nor manufacturingly consume the staple food cereal that the next Congress will hotly give us a law that will certainly take the abuses--and almost of the excitement and profits--out of speculation, if it does not actually destroy it.

"'Even the Department of Agriculture itself was infected with mob psychology. On the theory, probably, if it had any, that wheat couldn't go too high for the good of the farmer and that it ought, therefore, to speed up the mad race by all possible means, the department put out a ridiculous statement on January 6, which caused the mulcting of countless victims of the speculation frenzy....With wheat around $1.80 for the May option, and roaring up hill in high, the department deplored "the misapprehension that speculation has driven the price up unduly in the United States." It further assured the credulous public, waiting for any kind of a tip to plunge, that "the responsible agencies of the Department of Agriculture are in constant touch with the conditions of supply and demand, not only at home but abroad." ' "After further statements regarding the department's share in existing conditions, Mr. Knappen's subject of interview proceeds: " ' No longer do the farmers stand alone in their contention that speculation is a robber as well as a maker of fictitious

prices. This year it happens that two of the biggest and ablest traders the Chicago wheat pit has ever known, George E. Marcy and E. F. Rosenbaum, are on the side of the farmers, as managers of the cooperative Grain Marketing Company--by far the largest buyer of cash wheat in the country. Ever since the first of last December they have been protesting that "the speculative accumulations of speculators were matters of common knowledge" and that the American price was being pushed out of line with world prices in an artificial and dangerous manner.....The grain ring is broken, the truth is out; the farmers' suspicions are more than justified.....!"

An editorial note on the above says: "Since this article was writte the Grain Futures Administration made an interim report on May 13. Doubtless, this will be followed soon by the official report covering the investigation into the situation affecting recent grain fluctuations. This report should be found quite engrossing. It is a situation distinctly worth following."

Modern Development

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 21 says: "We are told that farmers are at the mercy of giant corporations, controlling industry and production. They are being driven to a standard of living lowe than any American ought to tolerate. The political independence gained in 1776 has been lost in an economic dependence which began with the development of mechanical power at the close of the Civil War. We are told the solution of the problem assumed lies in decentralization of industry and restoration of the process of manufacture to individual and local control. These are a few of the highlights in a speech made by a United States Senator to the West Texas Chamber of Commerce....Leaping the intervening years and space into Texas about the close of the Civil War we find the fertile land almost given away, cattle worth practically nothing and everybody poor. It is not necessary to draw the comparison of to-day because the people of Texas can see their 6,500,000 head of cattle, worth, with other livestock $575,000,000, and farms covered with property valued at $4,400,000. England to-day supports a population of about 40,000,000 people in comparative comfort. But the soil is no more fertile than in the days when a few million people eked out a miserable existence. Texas has reason to boast of its wealth, but a generation ago the soil was as rich and there were fewer people on it, yet they were not driven down to that 'low standard of living' of to-day, where automobiles, radios, electric light, cheap and abundant clothing, labor-saving machinery and other cruelties are forced upon us. Our people of to-day live in far greater comfort than at any period since the world began. Only when the local industry gave place to machinery did people begin to reach a higher standard of living. The old order could not feed and support the population of to-day. A generation ago five men working together ten hours coul produce about eight yards of cotton cloth so coarse as to make a pig squea if rubbed with it. To-day the same labor will produce one hundred times as much. The same is true in all industry. This is why Texas can sell and market 5,000,000 bales of cotton a year; why it can produce its great herds of livestock and find a ready market for them. Individual, localized industry means harking back to the old times of poverty, filth, disease and wars. It means arrested development; the history of the past proves it. Machine production means progress, development and increased comfort for all classes, especially for those who toil with their hands. Indeed, they are the greatest beneficiaries of the present order."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products May 22: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.90 for the top and $12.30 to $12.75 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.40 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.50; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $11; fat lambs $11 to $13; spring lambs $13.50 to $16; yearlings $8.75 to $11.75; fat ewes $5.25 to $8.25.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes sold at $5.50 to $6.25 per barrel to jobbers in eastern cities; $4.50 to $5.00 f.o.b. Meggett section. New York sacked Round Whites ranged $1.15 to $1.50 in eastern markets while northern stock brought $1.05 to $1.15 on the Chicago carlot market. Delaware and New Jersey strawberries mostly 20¢ to 23¢. Missouri and Kentucky Aromas $5 to $5.75 per 24-quart crate in the Middle West; auction sales at $4.50 to $5.50 f.o.b. Southwestern Missouri points. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions 25 to 35¢ lower at $3,to $3.50 per crate. Virginia Wakefield cabbage declined to $1.75 to $2.50 per barrel crate in the East; $1.50 to $1.75 f.o.b. Norfolk.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 40 1/2¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted May 22: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.65 to $1.88. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.87 1/2; St. Louis $1.91. Kansas City $1.66 to $1.70. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.67 1/2 to $1.68; St. Louis $1.66 to $1.67; Kansas City $1.59 to $1.71. No.3 mixed corn Chicago $1.11 to $1.12; Minneapolis $1.04 to $1.06. Kansas City $1.05 to $1.06. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.15 1/2 to $1.16; Minneapolis $1.10 to $1.12; St. Louis $1.15 to $1.15 1/2. Kansas City $1.10 to $1.11. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.12 3/4 to $1.14 1/2; No.2 white corn St. Louis $1.13 to $1.14 1/2. Kansas City $1.08 1/2 to $1.09. No.3 white corn Chicago $1.12 1/2 to $1.13. No.3 white oats Chicago 43 3/4 to 45¢; Minneapolis 41 3/8 to 41 7/8¢; St. Louis 46 1/2¢; Kansas City 48¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 2 points, closing at 23.65¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 7 points, closing at 22.72¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 22,	May 21,	May 22,1924
20 Industrials	128.95	128.70	90.10
20 R.R. stocks	99.05	98.27	82.58

(Wall St. Jour., May 23.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 47 Section 1 May 25, 1925.

EARTHQUAKE STUDY URGED

According to the press to-day, although not indorsing recent predictions of imminent earthquakes along the Atlantic Coast, Colonel E. Lester Jones, Director of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, yesterday declared he was in accord with a plan that a more detailed study of the forecasting of earthquakes should be made with the view to reducing their destructive effects. Declaring that predictions of this nature could only be made after a careful seismological examination of the region concerned, combined with similar observations over the adjoining areas, Colonel Jones asserted that "in the absence of sufficient data, the Coast and Geodetic Survey is not prepared to state whether the great cities of the East are likely to be shaken by violent earthquakes." A concerted drive for knowledge of earthquake phenomena in the East and Middle West was urged by Colonel Jones, who saw the need of improved instruments which would locate earthquakes with precision even at great distances. By placing a number of these at strategic points in the country, and using trained observers, it would be possible, he said, "to prepare a fault map showing the date, location and force of even minor vibrations, for which predictions could be made with an assurance that is at present impossible."

RUBBER PROFITS

The press to-day says: "Commerce Department inquiries now being concluded indicate that extra profits from only one of the sources of British wealth--the rubber plantations of the East Indies--will be sufficient to cover all of that Nation's future repayment of its war debt to the United States. American imports of raw rubber, which cost $185,000,000 during the calendar year 1924, probably will cost $400,000,000 for 1925, and at least a part of this prospective increase is unofficially attributed to the operation of a scheme for production restriction worked out by the plantation interests through the British Colonial Office. A partial report of the investigation undertaken at the direction of Secretary Hoover was made public May 24 to meet the pressure for information from the rubber industry in view of recent sharp price increases. Crude rubber that sold as low as 17 cents a pound in 1924 reached 46 cents last January and is now fluctuating between 60 and 70 on nervous markets, while the world's visible stocks are disappearing and exchange prices of English Plantation Company shares are soaring. The United States, with three great industries concerned--petroleum, automobile and rubber goods manufacture--is particularly interested in the situation, because its consumption is 70 per cent of the world's total output. Secretary Hoover, in a foreword to the partial report, expressed no opinion as to whether the Government restriction on production in the English Colonies was responsible for the great price advance, but warned that the falling off in new planting was likely to create a real rubber shortage by 1928 or 1930. One of the American objectives, he indicated, should be to 'find means to stimulate competitive production' in other tropical areas of the world....."

Section 2

Cotton

The Wall Street Journal for May 23 says; "Many are asking today if cotton is cheap. Opinions differ, but the man who is interested in cotton can not trust to opinion alone; he must examine the facts and draw a conclusion. On that he should act, regardless of whether or not it squares with his hopes or wishes. As those in the business know, the July future is the last one of the present crop year, the new year of 1925-26 beginning on August 1. There is evidence that the July future has been heavily oversold, while the actual supply of cotton to fill commitments is rapidly disappearing. It is going so rapidly that by the end of July there will be only a small carryover left in the United States. This was the situation a year ago, when the July future before its end went to 35.40. Barring an actual corner in the market that price is not likely to be duplicated, but it is a fair inference that the price prevailing in the past few days, when cotton declined to 21.70, is cheap. Speculative interest centers in the new crop. In May a year ago October cotton sold as low as 23.80 and toward the end of July as high as 29.55. In May of this year it sold down to 21.77, but there is no assurance that it will duplicate the high point of last July. The facts, however, lean strongly toward the bullish side. An economist would dispute the current claim that the high prices of cotton make high prices for goods. He would say that demand and supply determine the price of goods, and that the price of any kind of goods determines the price of the short factor in its production, whether it be labor, raw material or anything else. Assuming a demand for goods, therefore, the price of cotton should respond either way according to the weather conditions on which the supply demands. ....."

Cotton in British Dominions

A London dispatch to the press of May 23 says: "Great strides are being made by the British Dominions in their campaign to raise their cotton output to a point where it may become a real factor in the international market, according to figures presented May 22 at the meeting of the British Empire Cotton Growing Corporation. Statistics presented by Lord Derby, who presided at the meeting, show that the cotton production by the Dominions for 1924-25 will be more than double the output for 1922-23. In 1922-23 the total was 160,000 bales of 400 pounds each, while for 1924-25 the aggregate will be 350,000 bales of 400 pounds each."

Cotton Standards at Manchester

A Manchester dispatch to the press of May 23 states that the general committee of the Federation of the Master Cotton Spinners resolved unanimously May 22 to send a message to Secretary Jardine of the American Department of Agriculture, canceling the notice previously given of the federation's intention to withdraw from the universal cotton standards agreement. The report states that the above decision follows closely upon the similar action by the Liverpool Cotton Association, taken at the American Embassy at London last Wednesday.

Grain Marketing

An editorial in Farm Stock and Home for May 15 says: "The Millers' National Federation at their annual meetinging in Chicago adopted the following resolution: 'Resolved, That trading in futures is a necessary factor in the economic marketing of grain. Such trading should be confined to its legitimate purpose. Inordinate speculation, of which the widely fluctuating markets of the past several months have given renewed evidence, is an intolerable evil, destructive of legitimate business, and should be abolished. We urge upon the exchanges themselves the prompt elimination of this vast, indiscriminate speculation, and the formulation of such regulations as may restore trading in futures to its original and only justifiable purpose; be it also Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the chairman of the board to consider methods, to confer with officials or committees of the grain exchanges regarding the removal of the existing recognized abuses, and to take such further action as they may find expedient.' We doubt very much if such a resolution would have even been thought of by this, or a like organization as recently as five year ago. The real meat in this is the advice to the grain exchanges to lead the way to reform. It seems to us that either the work must be done from the inside, or changes will be made by outsiders with the outsider's ignorance and prejudice as guides. The grain trade has all the facts, and the outsiders all the guesses. Constructive reform can only be built on facts. It is up to the grain trade to choose the method, for there is no doubt that a change in methods is inevitable."

Ireland's Food Trade

R. A. Whyte, Chief Trade and Produce Officer of the Irish Free State, in a recent paper read before the Royal Colonial Institute, and published in the May issue of The Estate Magazine, says:".....The total exports and re-exports from the Irish Free State amount in value approximately to four and a quarter million pounds sterling per month, of which Great Britain takes about 84 per cent. On the other hand--and showing that the flow of products for human consumption is far from being in only one direction--you ship us food, drink, tobacco, etc.--apart from the various industrial products--to the value of 40,000 pounds per day. Your total trade with us represents approximately 70 per cent of our entire imports. Again, in your own import and export figures--calculated on the basis of per head of the population--the Irish Free State stand fourth (being only surpassed by British India, Australia and the United States) amongst the principal importing and exporting countries supplying your market. These, I submit, are arresting facts which I venture to think both countries should be more familiar with. They show that the establishment of a satisfactory export trade must be balanced by a corresponding flow of imports, and these imports must come mainly from those countries to which you export. When one considers that 60 per cent of the expenditure of Grat Britain is on food stuffs, the importance of this question, and of anything which raised the

standard of efficiency in respect to quality or quantity--a work in which we are at this moment actively engaged--will be appreciated. When two countries exchange dissimilar goods to the extent that statistics show in this instance each must be benefited by the prosperity of the other. If either of the two countries, however, possesses the whole carrying trade between those countries, that country will gain more than is indicated by trade statistics, since in addition to her ordinary exports she would have to be paid for freights earned by her ships. This country happens to be Great Britain and I would be more satisfied if the transport earnings were more equitably divided. Irish butter as an organized export goes back 150 years. One hundred years ago we exported about 22,000 tons a year, which--it may be of interest to note--is three times the quantity you received from Canada and five times the amount supplied by Holland last year....."

Production and Marketing

Chicago Daily Drovers Journal for May 19 says: "President F. D. Farrell, of the Kansas State Agricultural College, speaks of the 'intense interest among industrial and commercial people in the improvement of agriculture' as one of the 'most hopeful phenomena of recent years.' Their interest is sincere enough but it falls short of its possibilities because it is one-sided. The farmer is urged to produce more efficiently and to put better quality products on the market, but the difficulty is that the business machine can not be made to function in such a manner as to reward the farmer properly for such extra effort and expense. President Farrell mentions eggs as an illustration of this point. 'The egg handling trade asks the farmer to market his eggs while the latter are fresh,' he says, 'but the trade does not always adequately reward the farmer who does this nor does it always justly penalize the farmer who refuses to do it. Farmers will produce and market high grade eggs when the trade, particularly at country points, consistently and fairly pays for eggs on the basis of their quality.' And so it is all along the line. Improvement must be based on a just method of buying, which 'must penalize inefficiency as surely and as consistently as it rewards high merit.' In too many cases buying has not done this. At times it has, in fact, penalized efficiency and rewarded inefficiency, a notable example of which is still to be found in wool trade. Such conditions need remedying, and business men can help to do it. The real way for business men to help the farmer is to buy his products strictly on merit, thus encouraging quality production; and to eliminate wasteful methods and unnecessary expenses in supplying the farmer with what he must buy. Business men should give farmers less advice, and more service in the ways indicated. There is much they can do if they will join hands to do it."

Production

An editorial in Southern Agriculturist for May 15 says: "'This is a time for the farmer to be doing his level best' so everybody has been saying. This paper has been saying it, too, and believes it; but it would have it understood that it does not believe

that the doing of his best means that the farmer should strain to increase his production to the utmost. He must produce, of course--that is the way he gets his living. And first of all, he must produce just as much of that living as he reasonably can. Then he must produce something to sell. But in his production of things to sell--especially in his production on immediate cash crops grown by great numbers of farmers, or of standard market types of livestock--he must consider economy of production along with volume of production. It will do him no harm to consider it first and oftenest and longest of all. Cheap production rather than extensive production is the thing called for right now, not only by farmers in the mass, but even by the individual farmer. Indeed, the great danger facing farmers as a class is the production of too great a volume of stuff at too great a cost."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

The report of Dr. H. L. Shantz, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, on agricultural conditions in East Africa is favorably mentioned in a full page review of "Education in East Africa," by Thomas Jesse Jones, in The New York Times Book Review of May 24. The review says in part: "In this second report on Africa, issued by the Phelps Stokes Fund, we have the Magna Charta of the negro and associated races who dwell on that continent, south of the countries which have their shores on the Mediterranean Sea. The report, like its predecessor, has been written by Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones and it is enough to say that his masterly review, a noble example of practical mysticism, may be compared in importance with Lord Durham's historic dispatch dealing with Canada. The document inaugurates a new era in colonial administration throughout the world, and on leaving London Dr. Jesse Jones was formally entertained by the British Government at a public banquet..... For a body so solid as this organization such a tribute was perhaps unusual. Doctor Jones displays a remarkably sound judgment. About his opinions, there is nothing of mere emotion. It was, I think, Herbert who said that 'deeds are men; words are women.' Yet it will not be denied that not by battles but by books have the destinies of mankind been determined. Such a book, a doomsday book of race, is here..... At the urgent request of the British Government the Phelps Stokes Fund arranged with the International Education Board and missionary societies in England for a similar commission to visit East Africa. And the result is this further report-ampler than the first in its facts and its philosophy, in which the masterly pages prepared by Dr. Jesse Jones are supported by a strong introduction from Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes and a general review of agriculture in East Africa by Dr. H. L. Shantz of the Bureau of Plant Industry at the Department of Agriculture, who had already published his observations of soil and animal life during a journey from the Cape to Cairo. The cooperation of this expert

associates the United States Government with a notable and beneficent enterprise. For both reports, Doctor Aggrey, a colored citizen of the Continent, shares responsibility with his colleagues on the commission."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

For the week ended May 23: Prices of potatoes in leading markets and at shipping points were generally lower at the close of the week. Florida Spaulding Rose ranged $6 to $6.75 per barrel. Strawberry prices tended higher in the Middle West; Eastern markets irregular. Imperial Valley of California cantaloupes, Salmon Tints, sold mostly at $8 per standard crate of 45 melons, top of $10 in New York. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged 15¢ to 50¢ lower at $3 to $3.50 per crate. Virginia Wakefield cabbage sold 25¢ to $1.00 lower at $1.50 to $2.50 per barrel crate in eastern markets, low as $1 in New York; $1.50 f. o. b. Norfolk.

Chicago hog prices ranged from 20 to 55¢ higher than a week ago, closing at $12.80 for the top and $12.10 to $12.50 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers 20¢ lower to 30¢ higher at $8.40 to $11.35; butcher cows and heifers steady to 25¢ lower at $4.40 to $11.25; feeder steers 50¢ lower at $5.30 to $8.50; light and medium weight veal calves steady to 25¢ lower at $7.50 to $11. Fat lambs 50 to 75¢ lower at $11 to $13; spring lambs 50¢ lower at $13.50 to $16; yearlings steady to 25¢ higher at $8.75 to $11.75 and fat ewes steady to 35¢ lower at $5.25 to $8.25.

Butter markets about steady following week of unsettled trading. Production showed some increase. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 41 1/2¢; Chicago 40 1/2¢; Philadelphia 42 1/2¢; Boston 42¢.

Cheese markets continue to be generally quiet, although despite this price advances have occurred. Wholesale prices on Wisconsin primary markets May 22: Single Daisies 22 1/2¢; Longhorns 22 1/2¢; Square Prints 24¢.

Grain market steadier. New crop higher than week ago on unfavorable weather and claims crops damage. Cash wheat not following full advance in futures. Corn futures fractionally higher influenced by strength in wheat but cash corn slightly lower with increased country marketings after corn planting. Oats futures fractionally higher but cash oats easier.

Hay market barely steady. Moderate receipts ample for limited demand. Quoted May 23: No. 1 timothy - Boston $25; New York $25; Pittsburgh $20; Cincinnati $17.50; Chicago $22; St. Louis $21.50; Memphis $22.50; Atlanta $23.50. No. 1 alfalfa - Kansas City $20; Omaha $15.50; Memphis (new) $27; Atlanta (new) $29. No. 1 prairie -- Kansas City $10; Omaha $10.50; Chicago $16; St. Louis $15.50; Minneapolis $16.50.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 103 points during the week, closing at 24.04¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 94 points, closing at 23.20¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 48 Section 1 May 26, 1925.

FARM LOAN BOARD CUTS INTEREST RATES — The Federal Farm Loan Board yesterday took the first step in what is to be a general reduction of rates of interest charged farmers by Federal land banks, authorizing a new rate of 5¼ per cent for the Omaha district, effective June 1. The rate now in effect is 5½ per cent. While there was no official statement beyond the bare announcement relative to the cuts to be made in the other districts, it was understood the board was considering reductions as great as 1/2 per cent in some of them. The Omaha district, the Eighth, comprises the States of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming. (Press, May 26.)

RUBBER PRODUCTION — In an editorial on the Commerce Department's recent report on British rubber profits, The New York Times to-day says: "..... In referring to the threatened scarcity of rubber, with its rising prices the Secretary of Commerce points to the need of stimulating competitive production 'in other tropical areas.' What these are Mr. Hoover does not specify. Doubtless he has in mind the Philippine Islands. Several of them are reported by American experts to be admirably fitted for rubber culture. What is first needed is the organization of developing companies with large capital behind them. But American capital is not in these days flowing freely for investment in the Philippines. The reasons are well known. Political uncertainties and the lack of efficient guarantees of a stable Government do not tempt capital. The situation respecting our supply of rubber is thus only one more argument for the need of taking steps to assure in the Philippines a regime under which the resources of the islands can be enlarged and utilized in a way to benefit all."

LIVERMORE ABANDONS STOCK MARKET — A New York dispatch to the press to-day says: "Jesse L. Livermore has quit the stock market. No more will Wall Street be able to accuse him of staging spectacular bear drives or of managing stupendous bull pools, because the famous 'boy plunger,' the greatest stock market speculator of modern times, has quit for good. Coldly calculating his chances, Livermore has decided the stock market has grown too big for large individual operations. No man, however wealthy, can hope successfully to swing the present-day stock market with something like 900 separate stock issues listed. He has turned his attention to grain and cotton, in which he has been highly successful of late. In the recent big grain market Livermore made a lot of money. He did not make as much as the Government contends, perhaps, but his profits were large..... It is because he is so keenly analytical that he has turned to grain and cotton where statistics are more reliable and conditions to be relied upon..... In the grain market there is never a time that he can not market the largest amount of grain he is capable of buying. It is an international market and one based entirely on fundamentals. In that market success is there for the man who studies conditions and not for the reckless gambler who is simply guessing....."

Section 2

Agricultural Education in Britain

An editorial in Country Life (London) for May 16 says: "'Divvers'-- for the benefit of those who have not been to Oxford-- is an examination in divinity which all undergraduates are required to pass early in their university careers. It is a relic of an age that has passed away, like the university statute that prohibits those in statu pupilari from playing marbles on the steps of the Clarendon Buildings--a privilege reserved for Dons..... A knowledge fully as vital and as respectable as divinity is that of the economics of the land. At the annual conference of the universities of Great Britain, Sir Daniel Hall put forward the suggestion of a degree course in agriculture which should primarily have as its object the awakening of a sense of responsibility in the student and a realization of the opportunities before him. It would differ from the existing agricultural courses, which aim at turning out a completely equipped scientific farmer, by dealing with the subject less technically and more in relation to economics, science and public life. For example, Sir Daniel pointed out how, 'from what seems the extremely uncompromising subject of the study of the actual cash accounts of farmers, there can emerge not only information that would be of assistance to farmers in their business, but certain general conclusions which are of the utmost service--indeed, a necessity--to statesmen in viewing some of the most difficult problems before the State at the present moment.' That is well said.... Whatever the defects of the Conservative Government may be, it has at least a Prime Minister who is an industrialist and a practical farmer, and a Minister of Agriculture whom all agriculturists respect. These two men, however, owe their experience to their birth, and it is certain that the country can not always expect to be so fortunate. Some Ministers of the future are, no doubt, at this moment under graduates at Ruskin Hall--the Oxford college founded for the so-called working class. To such men, no less than for the landed gentry, a course in land economics would make a difference of untold benefit to the community. It is right and just that the laboring class should have as proportionately strong a voice in government as the more leisured classes; but it will be disastrous if their representatives, as is too often the case at present, can see only the mining village, or the factory, to the exclusion of its place in the natural order of things. Socialists, no more than Tories, can alter the seasons or bring forth two blades where the soil will bear but one. And ignorance of the economics of the land will result in no blades at all..... After three years' application to the classics or law few minds are disposed to turn to agriculture. Infinitely preferable to either of these alternatives would be to make the course even shorter, to make it compulsory, and to put it at the beginning, instead of the end, of an undergraduate's career. To substitute it, in a word, for the fatuous 'Divvers.' No prospective clerics would thereby lose. Indeed, they would be eminently better fitted to hold rural benefices. All additional studies, of whatever nature, would in this way be fitted into a scheme based on a realization of practical values. And that is what the country urgently needs."

Agriculture and Business

The Financial Age for May 23 says: "It is becoming each day more apparent that the banking and business community will base many of its operations upon the crop news and such developments in the grain area as take place between now and the beginning of harvest. There is no doubt but that many people have been somewhat disturbed by the bad showing made by winter wheat and the high ratio of abandoned winter wheat area. The disclosures in this respect have not been very comforting, but the indications are that some improvement and perhaps a good deal of improvement will be forthcoming before the crops are ready for harvest.... The out-turn of the harvest will be sure to continue a subject of great interest in the United States so long as the yields are unknown and it is impossible to tell exactly what showing the railroads will make, especially in that vast territory which is dependent upon the farmer to bring about good business and continued good times in the United States."

Cooperation

Sioux City Live Stock Record for May 20 says: "It is understood that efforts are being made looking to a unification of different farm organizations of the country into one body that can take charge of farm interests with a purpose of accomplishing something for the farmer. The object is certainly a laudable one. It is also one of huge ambition. Without any intent of stirring up strife between factions; also, announcing it to be our firm belief that no man of this world will ever create a flawless organization of men, attention is called to the fact that these recent years of organization have brought out too much of conflict between different organizations, all of which have a common purpose in view and all of which approach this common object from different angles. However laudable the object of one, or all, of these organizations, the suggestion comes to us that unified action--concentration of purpose--is the only route by which this objective will ever be reached. Jealousy between organizations only leads to cross purpose and failure. In this connection it is not out of order to call attention to one organization, having to do with the farmer and livestock raiser, and against which there has been more or less of opposition by some of the farm organizations, and yet which is the only organization that has accomplished its purpose, largely for the benefit of the livestock interests of the farmer, and has reached its accomplishments through unity of action. And that one organization is the National Live Stock Exchange. We will perhaps be criticized for the assertion, but the National Live Stock Exchange, through unity of action by the local exchanges at the several market points, has done more for the farmer and the livestock producer than any other one organization in this country that has for its purpose and inspiration the interests of the man out on the ranch, farm and in feed lot. Unity of action of the local exchanges with the national organization--and this action alone--without cost to the farmer or stockman stopped the packers several years ago from buying all the stock subject to inspection after slaughter, and in which case the farmer and shipper would have had to wait until the

cattle had been slaughtered and passed upon by the Government inspectors before settlement would have been made and money remitted. In more recent days may be mentioned the 16,500-pound minimum car service in shipment of hogs, the bedding charge, such rate reductions as have been secured, better train service, the claim service and others have been secured by unity of action of the local exchanges through the national body. And it should be remembered that all of these services have been secured for the farmer livestock feeder and shipper, through the exchanges, without calling on the producer and shipper to bear any part of the cost of securing these services. Farmer organizers might do a whole lot worse than taking the history and accomplishments of livestock exchanges as a mark from which to build organizations of farmers, by farmers and for farmers."

Wool Marketing

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 25 says: "The distresses caused by the severe fluctuations in raw wool prices have not unnaturally led to discussion of ways and means to bring about stabilization. The propaganda recently launched by an English expert to establish a futures market in wool tops has for that reason occasioned more serious discussion than it would otherwise have aroused. There is no reason to believe that any substantial body of opinion in this country could be recruited to urge the establishment of a 'futures' market. In the first place, questions of grading and standardization are very difficult of solution, although great progress has already been made in this respect. Next and even more important for a 'futures' market, which is intended to function as an aid to industry instead of as a hindrance, reliable statistics of stocks and supplies must be available. Lacking these (and wool statistics are notoriously unreliable and incomplete) a 'futures' market would only serve to accentuate rather than to equalize wide and erratic price changes. If the proponents of the establishment of a market for wool 'futures' will, however, bend their energies to improving and expanding the faulty statistical data now available they will be able to perform a much needed public service, even if they should get no farther....."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

David F. Houston, former Secretary of Agriculture, in an article in The World's Work for June, says: ".....A second thing which can be done and should be done to the relief both of the members of Congress and of the Executive, is to place all except a very few officers and employees of every department of the Government in the classified service. There is no reason why the personnel of every department should not be approximately as fully covered by the classified service and taken out of the hands of politicians as is that of the Department of Agriculture. This department is in many respects the best department of the Government, and this is due in no small measure to the fact that only a few of its officers are not appointed for merit, such as the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and the Chief of the Weather Bureau."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 25: South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes mostly $5 to $6.25 per slat barrel in city wholesale markets; $4.50 f. o. b. Moggett section. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs $3.25 to $3.50 per 100 pounds in distributing centers; $2.50 to $2.75 f. o. b. Mobile.

Texas Yellow Bermuda onions 25 to 50¢ lower at $3 to $3.25 per standard crate in consuming centers. Imperial Valley of California cantaloupes Salmon Tints, $2 to $4 lower at $7 to $8.50 per standard crate of 45 melons, top of $10 in Philadelphia. Maryland and Delaware strawberries firm at 17 to 23¢ quart basis in eastern markets and $4.50 to $6 per 32-quart crate in Philadelphia. New Jersey Klondikes 20¢ to 23¢ per quart in New York City.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.35 for the top and $11.75 to $12.25 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.40 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $11; fat lambs $11.50 to $13.50; spring lambs $13.50 to $16.15; yearlings $9 to $12 and fat ewes $5.25 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 41¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 42 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted May 25: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.69 to $1.85; No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.85 to $1.95; Kansas City $1.68 to $1.72. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.69 3/4 to $1.72 1/4; St. Louis $1.69 1/2; Kansas City $1.61 to $1.71. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.14 to $1.16; Minneapolis $1.09 1/4 to $1.10 1/4. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.18 1/4 to $1.20; St. Louis $1.20; Kansas City $1.15 to $1.16. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.15 1/2 to $1.18; Minneapolis $1.12 1/2 to $1.14 1/4. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.19; Kansas City $1.12 to $1.13; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.15 to $1.17. No. 3 white oats Chicago 45 to 47 1/2¢; Minneapolis 43 3/8 to 43 7/8¢; St. Louis 48 to 48 1/4¢; No. 2 white oats Kansas City 48 1/2 to 49¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 2 points, closing at 24.02¢ per lb. New York July future contracts unchanged, closing at 23.20¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 25,	May 23,	May 24, 1924
20 Industrials	127.78	128.85	90.66
20 R. R. stocks	99.15	99.01	82.96

(Wall St. Jour., May 26.)

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Vol. XVII, No. 49 Section 1 May 27, 1925.

MILK INDUSTRY CENTRALIZATION An Atlantic City dispatch to the press of to-day says: "Centralized control of the milk industry of the country, with concentration of producing centers near communities served, effecting efficiency and lower costs, as in other food industries, such as meat packing, was predicted at Atlantic City, May 26, by Prof. Frederick W. Howe, Director of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn. Professor Howe spoke at the closing session of the annual conference of the American Association of Medical Milk Commissions and the Certified Milk Producers' Association of America. He declared it was not necessary to become 'hysterical' and stop a milk supply because of the outbreak of infectious disease among employees, because modern organization should confine the outbreak, as in the case of contagious fevers in hospitals, without injury to the product. 'Milk producing plants' he said, 'can not avoid exposure to sporadic cases of infection, but solution of the problem is not by cutting off the supply of milk, because this is only a temporary way, and the clean milk industry is too fundamental and necessary to our prosperity as a Nation to be subjected to the temporary method. The solution lies in proper organization and technique of handling, with clean utensils and healthy cows. The majority of milk producing plants are now far removed from the communities they serve, such as those which supply New York City, but the day is coming fast when these will be centralized in sections near such communities, where they can be properly supervised by health authorities, and so that production as in other industries, can be carried on with the least possible cost.' Seth Shoemaker of Scranton was elected president of the Certified Milk Producers' Association and Dr. R. R. Ferguson was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer."

RAILROAD SELLS STOCK TO FARMERS The New York Times to-day says: "The policy of the Great Northern Railroad in selling stock directly to Montana farmers in the financing of an extension of its line in that State is being hailed by eastern railroad men as inaugurating a new era in the Northwest. Most of the troubles of the railroads in that territory, it is generally conceded, have been due to restrictive regulation. Congress has applied this regulation, it is being pointed out by eastern railroad men, largely because the people in the territory wanted it. They were of the opinion that the roads were controlled by a few rich men having their offices in Wall Street who could better afford to stand the losses than the Northwestern farmer. The step by the Great Northern, it is thought, if followed by the other northwestern carriers, will gradually transfer the railway ownership from a limited group to the shippers throughout the terriotry and result in the election of directors who actually live in the territory served and know the conditions there.."

Section 2

British Food Report

The Scottish Farmer for May 16 says: "The Royal Commission on Food Prices has reported. Sir Auckland Geddes and his colleagues have gone further than did the Marquis of Linlithgow and his, but it can not be said that they have added much to the sum of human knowledge. Both commissions have revealed the fact that alike in respect of meat and bread there are excessive profits. The consumer is penalized, not because there is an inevitable advance in price on account of the diminished purchasing power of the pound sterling in the retail shop; but because of other factors in the world situation, there is a scarcity or a stringency so that room is provided for the charging of an excessive profit. The Royal Commission does not say that these excessive profits are universal either in the meat or in the baking trade, but it does say that there are cases in which there is room for a substantial reduction in price to the consumer without the slightest risk of loss being incurred by the producer or distributor..... The report establishes, what has been suspected, that (in at least one part of the country, and that a great industrial area, South Wales) there has been in force a deliberate restraint upon retail dealers giving the public bread at a price which left to the dealer a paying profit. This embargo was imposed by wholesale traders. Seeing that such a nefarious method of plundering the public is proved to have been in force in one trade there is no reason to suspect that it may prevail in other trades as well. To have succeeded in dragging into daylight the contract which retailers in South Wales were compelled to sign under penalty of being deprived of supplies is a public service which will stand to the credit of Sir Auckland Geddes and his colleagues. The evil results flowing from the operation of this so-called 'National Sale-Note Clause,' are summarized in these words:-- 'It has the object of restricting competition and penalizing the more efficient and progressive baker.' When one recalls the diabolical way in which the wheat supplies of the world have been gambled in on the Chicago Board of Trade, and the light-hearted way in which wealthy speculators have in this fashion held up food supplies, he can not but rejoice when daylight is brought to bear on such conduct. Arising out of these and such like discoveries the Royal Commission has made a definite recommendation in favor of the setting-up of an official food council with a salaried chairman and a small staff. Waiving misgivings based on the ascertained futilities of advisory food councils in war time, there is much to be said in favor of this recommendation. Part of its duty would be to intervene when anything like this 'National Sale-Note Clause' was suspected to exist in any section of trade..... Whether the results would justify the creation of a further bureau connected with trade is precisely the question that remains to be settled. The opinions of representative leaders in the three essential trades mainly referred to have been gleaned; these deprecate any bureaucratic interference with trade, and generally insist on the efficacy of the law of supply and demand to protect the consumer. The operation of the 'National Sale-Note Clause' awakens scepticism as to this efficacy, and there is at present a clear difficulty in multiplying retail premises."

Canadian Scientist to be Honored

Canadian Farmer for May 23 says: "The recent announcement that the University of Toronto, at its commencement exercises on June 5, will confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Science upon the originator of Marquis wheat is one that will be welcomed by all in the field of agriculture, as indeed by those in all walks of life, who appreciate the value of a great life's work in the cause of human advancement and welfare..... Recognition and honor come to some speedily. To others, just as deserving, they come with almost painful slowness. In this latter class is Dr. Charles Saunders, who is described officially as a noted agronomist and cerealist..... Little recognition was accorded Doctor Saunders until the time of his voluntary retirement to pursue other studies in which he was interested. At that time pressure was exerted upon the Dominion Government to suitably recognize the man who had done so much for Canada, and indeed for the whole world."

Cotton Growing in Africa

A West African correspondent of The African World for May 9 says: "The diminution of shipments from America, owing to increasing local consumption and the ravages of the boll weevil and the boll worm, is again causing Lancashire to look for new sources of supply. The whole of Africa, from the Nile Delta to the Cape of Good Hope, is being incited to take up and increase present culture, and all the European controlling Powers are projecting irrigation works and railways to provide land for the culture and transport of the crops. When all these countries are pouring their supplies into the market the present high prices must come down. What Lancashire wants is cotton at 7d. per lb., a price which will not recoup the heavy cost of European methods of management. 'Lancashire must look to the native peasant population of Africa for her salvation, for no one else can give her what she wants.' France and Belgium are also looking to their African possessions to supply the whole of the raw material for their textile industries. In the Upper Niger Valley France has started an irrigation scheme which will bring 12,000,000 acres under cultivation, much of which will be given over to cotton. In the Belgian Congo there is great activity, and our friends hope that in ten years' time they will be independent of all outside supplies. As regards Great Britain, it seems likely that in ten years' time not even India will be supplying as much cotton as Africa."

Federal Government

David F. Houston, former Secretary of Agriculture, is the author of a comprehensive article entitled "Balance of Power in Washington", in The World's Work for June. In this Mr. Houston says: ".....It seems to me as certain as anything can be that placing the Cabinet in Congress would not result in responsible leadership. Neither House of Congress will take its leadership from men brought in from the outside, men whom it does not select. Nor, in the long run, even if the President's party control both Houses, will Congress tolerate

obvious efforts of the President directly to lead it. And especially will it resent attempts of the President to force its hand by appeals over its head to the people. It will not tamely submit to the intimation that it does not represent the people. It has finally broken every President who aggressively persisted in attempts either directly or indirectly to lead it and it will continue to do so in the future. ..... Such a change would be revolutionary. It would mean a complete overthrow of our present scheme of Government. To operate in its perfection the parliamentary system would have to be adopted in its entirety. Briefly stated, this would mean: that the House of Representatives would become the dominant factor in our Federal Government, both in legislation and in administration; that the administration would be directed by a committee responsible mainly to the House of Representatives; that the Senate would lose, at least in part, its position as a coordinate body, just as has the House of Lords in Great Britain; that the President would become a formal executive, that is, in large measure, a figurehead, losing his veto power; that the Supreme Court would lose its power to declare laws unconstitutional; that there would be election not at stated intervals but whenever the Government seemed to lose the confidence of the country; and, therefore, that our Constitution would cease to exist except as a variable and shifting element, its character to be determined in each instance by the will of the dominant body.....

"The people must see to it that the Government takes steps to secure and retain in certain positions of great responsibility individuals of the highest integrity, of exceptional ability, and of wide experience. Certainly the people are entitled to as good service and to as high an order of talent in the public business as are commanded by private enterprise. It is ridiculous for Cabinet officers and department officials such as the Under-Secretary of the Treasury, responsible for financial operations of enormous magnitude, to be called upon to serve the people for a smaller compensation than that received by many lesser subordinates in banks and other private institutions. The Government does not need to pay salaries as high as those given in industry, but it should pay enough to retain able and experienced servants. It should pay them enough to live decently, to save something, and to work without undue apprehension as to the future of their families. It should pay enough to get the best talent and to keep it. The right men in Government service, as in industry, are cheap at any reasonable price. The wrong men are expensive at any price. This great Nation can amply afford to pay for the best talent to serve it. And it is very unjust and a little short of indecent for it to permit such conditions as the present to continue. It should not countenance a situation where men must serve it at a sacrifice and where only the well-to-do can afford to hold office."

Livestock Market

The Sioux City Live Stock Record for May 22 says: "This column does not want to go on record as being opposed to any regulation of the livestock and meat trade, from the cradle to the meat block, that will regulate. There are many things the Government has done that have been of vast importance and benefit to the livestock and

meat trade. Probably the greatest of all is the inspection system in packing houses. It is practical. But there are many attempts at regulation without any consideration of just exactly what this regulation should be--just simply a demand to regulate. The country has had a lot of that in the matter of fluctuations in livestock prices. In fact the country has now had some seven years of regulation for stabilization. When the demand first arose for this regulation a break of 25 cents in prices for livestock in any one day was historical--not only historical, it was outrageous. After seven years of this regulation it is now found that a hog market can bob up and down 50 cents to $1.00 per day. And it is going to call for investigation, regulation and stabilization. A few days ago, we called attention to a few historical facts: The fellows who conceived the idea of Government regulation of private business did not, and do not register as practical livestock producers, market men or packers. From the inception of the famous Heney investigation the testimony of practical men was not admitted as evidence. Failures with ingrown grudges against railroads, markets and packers were the principal witnesses whose testimony was admitted as evidence. And, after the markets had been placed under a law based on the testimony of failures and grudges, the administration of the law was placed in the hands of men who had no practical production, marketing or packing experience. Wild, wide and wobbly fluctuations are a natural sequence. There is no mystery about them."

Rubber Prices

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 26 says: "American consumers are being told that imports of raw rubber which cost $185,000,000 in 1924 will probably cost $400,000,000 in 1925. 'At least a part of this prospective increase,' says a Washington dispatch, 'is unofficially attributed to the operation of a scheme for production restriction worked out by the plantation interests through the British Colonial Office.' Although the Stevenson restriction plan first introduced in 1922 unquestionably affords a partial explanation of the rise in rubber prices it would be very misleading to assume that it constitutes any adequate explanation of short time spectacular price movements such as have been recently upsetting the market. It is worse than misleading--it is altogether incorrect--to assume that the difference between what had to be paid for rubber last year and what is being paid this year--represents a clear profit going into the hands of rubber producers. The Stevenson restriction plan would never have been urged nor adhered to in the face of many difficulties if the rubber plantations had been able to pay their way. It was the heavy losses due to abnormally low post-war prices that forced the rubber planters to take action, and induced them to combine to restrict output. Even so, the combination attempt has been far from uniformly successful. Until lately, in fact, it was believed by many that the hardships incident to the production limitations put upon the adherents of the plan had placed an intolerable burden upon the weaker planters..... There is little reason to suppose that the high prices now ruling will be permanent or that the situation presents features essentially different from those that have characterized the markets for many other commodities demoralized by the war and by

post-war fluctuations in industrial demand..... In view of the facts it seems very far-fetched to conclude from the Department of Commerce inquiries that 'Extra profits from only one of the sources of British wealth--the rubber plantations of the East Indies--will be sufficient to cover all of that nation's future repayment of its war debt to the United States.' This is very curious doctrine, likely to add to the general bewilderment that before all discussion of debt payments. Obviously Britain is helped in building up her foreign trade by any advance in prices of the commodities sold by British subjects abroad. If the higher prices mean larger profits there is also an addition to the taxable incomes of the country, out of which foreign debt payments as well as other expenses can be defrayed. But the attempt to make the Stevenson plan a guarantee of British debt payments to the United States does not carry conviction to those who examine the facts."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 26: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.25 for the top and $11.70 to $12.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11.25; butcher cows and heifers $4.40 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.25 to $11.25; fat lambs $11.50 to $13.75; spring lambs $13.75 to $16.25; yearlings $9 to $12 and fat ewes $5.25 to $8.25.

Various varieties of strawberries from Maryland and Virgin. ranged 15¢ to 28¢ quart basis in eastern markets. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions sold at $3 to $3.50 per crate in consuming centers. South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at $4.50 to $6.50 per slat barrel in city markets; $4.25 to $4.50 f. o. b. Charleston. Virginia Wakefield cabbage $2 to $2.50 per barrel crate, top of $3 in Boston; $1.75 f. o. b. Norfolk. Florida fancy tomatoes $2.75 to $3.50 per six-basket carrier, original pack, in leading markets; $2.50 to $2.75 f. o. b. Ocala. Imperial Valley of California cantaloupes, Salmon Tints ranged $7.50 to $8.00 per standard crate of 45 melons, low as $7.00 in Baltimore; $3.50 f. o. b. El Centro.

Grain prices quoted May 26: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.69 1/2 to $1.85 1/2. No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.90 to $1.92; St. Louis $1.88 to $1.92 1/2; Kansas City $1.68 to $1.71. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.71 to $1.72; St. Louis $1.70 to $1.71; Kansas City $1.61 to $1.77. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.09 to $1.09 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.14 to $1.16 1/2. Minneapolis $1.08 1/4 to $1.09 1/4. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago 1.19 to $1.20 1/4; St. Louis $1.18 1/2 to $1.19; Kansas City $1.14 to $1.15. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.17 1/4 to $1.18 1/2; Minneapolis $1.11 1/4 to $1.13 1/4. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.17 1/2; Kansas City $1.08 1/2; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.16 to $1.17 3/4. No. 3 white oats Chicago 45 3/4 to 47¢; Minneapolis 43 1/2 to 44¢; St. Louis 47 1/2 to 48¢; No. 2 white corn Kansas City 49 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 2 points, closing at 24.04¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 2 points, closing at 23.18¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 50 Section 1 May 28, 1925.

WAR WHEAT PRICE FIXING

An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "Government price fixing on wheat during the war with Germany, far from reducing the return to the American farmer which he might have obtained in a free market, increased the selling price and maintained against influences which would have held it on a lower level, it is declared in an official publication by Dr. Frank M. Surface, put out yesterday and reviewed and approved by Secretary Hoover. Doctor Surface, who was economist for the United States Grain Corporation which handled the war job of controlling breadstuff prices and distribution, has revealed some hitherto undisclosed steps taken by the Grain Corporation in carrying out its policy. Doctor Surface said that the Grain Corporation during 1919 sought almost entirely to hold up grain prices, and as Mr. Hoover noted in the introduction, got on what a trader would term 'the bull side of the wheat market' to the extent of $500,000,000. The war time attempt was as much to hold up the price of wheat, the document is designed to show, as it was to stabilize it and prevent speculation that might have mulcted even to greater extent the consumer of the United States and its allies in the war. Doctor Surface likewise undertakes to show that by the control of wheat and the associated dealings with the price of meat products, the consumer was actually protected from extortionate mulcting in the cost of finished products."

BRITISH RESPOND TO HOOVER RUBBER STATEMENT

A London dispatch to the press to-day says: "A reply to Secretary Hoover's criticism of British restriction of rubber production was made at the May 27 meeting of the rubber plantation's investment trust by H. J. Welch, its chairman. 'I agree entirely with Secretary Hoover's principles,' said Mr. Welch, 'and it is interesting to have them enumerated in a country like the United States, which imposes tariffs deliberately to restrain competition by imports with home industries. But the restriction scheme is not a breach of the principles, not a combination in restraint of international trade. It can not have operated to restrain trade at all. It has reduced unwanted stocks and prevented supplies in excess of demand. Mr. Hoover anticipated a world shortage of rubber in 1928 or 1930. If he is right, the shortage would have been much greater without restriction, for many rubber areas which were created during the overplanting period, and which have been preserved by the restriction scheme, would have been abandoned. Further, the rubber producers have spent large sums in propaganda to increase world trade, not to dimish it, and they will be relieved when the demand overtakes the potential supply and restriction of output is no longer necessary...'

The London Times declares in its financial columns that, like Secretary Hoover, it disapproved the British restriction scheme, but it counsels American manufacturers to blame their own rapid increase of consumption rather than the restriction scheme, which merely changed the source of supply from British to Dutch producers.

Section 2

Austrian Farm Credits

A Vienna dispatch to the press of May 27 states that as a result of the recent visit to New York of President Rudolf Sieghart of the Vienna Bodencreditanstalt, it is reported that agricultural credits amounting to $5,000,000 have been obtained from American banks at 12 per cent. Industrial credits also are being negotiated.

British Food Report

The Field (London) for May 14 says: "The first report of the Royal Commission on Food Prices dealing with wheat and meat shows that Sir Auckland Geddes and his colleagues have drawn freely upon the fund of facts and figures built up two years ago by the Linlithgow Committee, and those who digested the very complete reports of this committee will find they have little appetite for the fare now provided. In fact the present report is not of great interest to the British farmer, as it deals mainly with the distribution of imported supplies rather than with the marketing of home produce.....The Commission has gone rather fully into the monetary influences as being the most important factor in the situation. It is shown that in common with the prices of other commodities food prices have on the average risen about 70 per cent. above the level of 1913 but 'it is by no means true that prices of foodstuffs in general are high compared with the prices of other commodities.' Apart from the effects of monetary influences--a problem which involves consideration of the economic advantages to be gained from a return to the gold standard and like matters beyond the comprehension of most farmers--the report touches on factors in the situation which are used by traders and others to explain the present high level of food prices. They are increased taxation, higher transport charges (an explanation that does not bear examination as railway rates show an increase of only 50 per cent above pre-war and should therefore tend to reduce food prices below the present standard of 60-80 per cent above pre-war), increased wages, trade disputes and the higher rent and rates now payable by wholesalers and shopkeepers. The commission has nothing new to say about the combination of butchers to eliminate competition by forming rings at livestock markets in this country, but the report says that competition in the buying and selling of imported meat has been affected by the recent amalgamation of several large multiple shop companies under the control of the Vestey family. This concern now operates no less than 2,356 retail shops. The commission was impressed with the definite evidence placed before them with regard to the practice of selling imported meat as home-killed. The commonest form of substitution is that of chilled beef for English beef. It is recommended that local authorities should do more in many cases to enforce the proper marking of meat as laid down by the Sale of Food Order 1921, and also that butchers' shops should be registered in the same way as tobacconists and wine merchants..... As regards the development of producers' pools in the Dominions the commission thinks that the New Zeland Meat Producers' Board has had little influence on the average level of prices. The trade is by its nature seasonal, and it has been the function of the board to spread the shipments of lamb and mutton throughout the year. There seems no doubt that the board has succeeded in

reducing the activities of speculators and that its operations do not run counter to the interests of the British consumer."

Cooperation The current issue of Farm and Dairy (Peterboro, Canada) says: "Not long ago most advocates of cooperation seemed to think that if farmers would only cooperate miraculous things would begin to happen. The impression was general that all that was necessary was to form a cooperative enterprise and success was virtually certain. During the past comparatively few years there have been so many failures among cooperative enterprises, and also so many successes, that the question has naturally been raised--why do so many of these enterprises fail, while others succeed? This has led to an intensive study of cooperative principles by cooperative experts, and out of it all has developed a new conception of the meaning, functions and possibilities of cooperative enterprises. One of the latest developments has been the establishment of the American Institute of Cooperation, which has arranged for a four weeks' practical educational course in cooperation. It will be conducted at Philadelphia, in connection with the University of Pennsylvania, between July 20 and August 15..... Experience has shown that success or failure of cooperative enterprises depends on many different factors, and that a knowledge of these factors is of great importance in the management of cooperative business enterprises. As these principles become better known it will be possible for farmers to introduce cooperative methods, with a wider knowledge of what is involved and a consequently greatly improved prospect of success. In spite of numerous failures the success of cooperative marketing have been so marked that it is becoming increasingly evident that it is going to prove an even greater development in the business world during the next decade than it has been in the past."

Grain Freight Rates The press of May 27 states that extensive revision of freight rates on grain and grain products moving from Rocky Mountain territory to the Mississippi River and territory East was recommended to the I. C. Commission by its examiners, May 26. The commission was advised that the general rates out of Colorado to the East should be maintained, but that producers in the States should be given rates to consuming territory measured by additions of from 10 to 20 cents per 100 pounds to the Colorado rates.

Motor Transportation and Grain Trade Price Current-Grain Reporter for May 20 says: "The advent and growth of the automobile in this country has affected the grain and hay trades to a greater extent than many would have thought. Great consuming markets of the East were large buyers of oats and hay, for trucking in days gone by was practically all done by teams and the horses had to be fed. As the auto truck has gradually driven the teaming business out of business the demand has lessened for these commodities. This was to be expected and many of the trade have adjusted their business to meet this condition. During the period of the rapid extension of electric traction lines in competition with the steam roads, much new and available terriotry was opened and many elevators were built along traction lines. The steam roads also had many stub lines going into

territory where the freight and passenger revenue was hardly sufficient to warrant the investment. With the advent of the automobile, and bus lines leading everywhere, both the traction and the steam roads have found many lines unprofitable and have been forced to abandon their operation. Of course, elevators on such lines which are left high and dry without facilities for moving carload shipments must go out of business or find other means of getting the grain to market. In this way, the automobile has again affected the grain trade."

New York State Fruits

A Utica, N. Y., dispatch to the press of May 27 says: "Within a very short time New York State will be able to supply its entire demand for fruits, it is declared by horticultural experts. Research under way at the State Experiment Station in Geneva, it is asserted, will develop up-State fruit areas to adequate proportions. These studies, it is predicted, will result in greater and better crops of apples, grapes, pears and cherries. Seedless grapes are a chief objective. Freeing of New York from its dependence upon the West and South becomes necessary, because in time increase in population probably will compel States like California and Florida to consume virtually all of their native products."

Packers and British Food Law

The Institute of American Meat Packers, on May 26 sent the following letter to the New York Evening Post: "Our attention has been called from several quarters to a foreign service article in your issue of May 9, headed, 'U. S. Packers Oppose British Food Bill to Forbid Use of Borax.' This article states that 'The picture of American leading the world in pure food has been somewhat damaged by protests lodged by Chicago packers against the new food regulations proposed by the British Health Ministry'; and, 'that a better grade of meat must be used' for export should the new British regulations become effective. The Committee on Foreign Relations and Trade of the Institute of American Meat Packers -- an Institute whose membership numbers some two hundred and fifty packing firms and includes practically all of the exporting packers of the United States -- at a meeting on Friday, after consideration of the article mentioned, made the following unequivocal statements: 1. American packers collectively have never opposed the measures proposed by the British Ministry of Health; 2. They have cooperated with the British Committee of meat dealers which has been taken into consultation by the British Ministry and were never in opposition to the proposals of the British government to effect this change in the method of handling food stuffs; 3. Enforcement of the new regulations will not bring about any difference in the preparation or the selection of meats on this side of the Atlantic; 4. The difference in cost, and change in method of shipping, if any, will be only in ocean freight; 5. American meats so far as quality, preparation and handling are concerned, are excelled by none. It is a fact that Danish and Irish packers specialize in producing a type of hog, which, in some respects, is more suited to the British trade, because it carries a smaller proportion of fat. The feeds available in Ireland and Denmark are suited to the production of these lean bacon hogs, while corn, which is the basis of the ration used in the United States, produces a somewhat fatter hog, but one that is suited to the domestic

market. American farmers produce chiefly for the domestic demand which differs somewhat from the English Demand.' May we be favored with such publication of these facts as you think proper?"

The Daily Digest made quotations from the article referred to in its issues of May 14 and May 20.

Swiss Bread Process

"Announcement has been made of the discovery, by a Swiss baker, of a method whereby fresh bread preserves its freshness for two years. If true (and it carries the stamp of approval of the Department of the Interior of the Canton of Vaud), the discovery is one which will prove an important factor in the consumption of food grains, and in the cost of living. The Swiss military authorities have already arranged to substitute this new bread, called "Mattipan," in their army ration, the cost being 4.4 cents, compared with a cost of about 7 cents for the present army biscuit." (Price Current-Grain Reporter, May 20.)

Sugar Situation

Paul Willard Garrett, writing from New York to the press of May 14 says: "When you consider that the United States in 1924 consumed 5,324,000 long tons of refined sugar--which, assuming a population of 114,000,000, is, roughly 114 pounds for every man, woman and child--you begin to realize why the financial markets nowadays are following closely all movements within the sugar industry..... If certain periods of recovery in price are eliminated, such as we witnessed early in 1924, the statement holds that sugar has been on the decline ever since the spring of 1923, when raws were quoted above 6.6 cents per pound. The low point in this decline has been reached only recently, when, around the turn of the present month, the quotation was 2.5 cents....."

Tourist Camp Ban in Parks Urged

A Skyland, Va., dispatch to the press of May 27 states that tourist camps should not be located in parks of great natural beauty, James L. Greenleaf, president of the American Society of Landscape Architects, declared May 26 at the fifth national conference on State parks. If the motor camping movement continues to grow, Greenleaf pointed out, it would be wise to use farm land for tourists' camps. Something, he said, will have to be done to spare scenic spots from being used for this purpose. He also warned against "vulgarization" of State and national parks by too much improvement.

Wheat Investigation

An editorial in Northwestern Miller for May 13 says: "The investigation now being made of the wheat market and trading on the Chicago Board of Trade may not reveal anything new. It may fail to show any organized pool to regulate prices. That is immaterial, although it would be interesting, if true. The complaint against the Chicago Board of Trade is that speculators have taken the trading in wheat away from the legitimate interests dependent upon it. Whether this has been done through collusion, or pools, may not be susceptible of proof, but speculation has dominated the market..... The wide fluctuations have not been warranted by the law of supply and demand, and it is intolerable

that such a condition should be permitted to extend into another crop and demoralize business as it has done in the last six months. If the system is wrong it should be changed; if irremediable, then it is a question if it should not be completely abolished. It is doubtful if any of the proposed changes will accomplish the desired results. Millers probably would not want trading in futures entirely eliminated, but they would like to have it occupy a legitimate place in the functioning of their business."

Section B
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 27: Northern sacked Round White potatoes reached $1.50 to $1.65 per 100 pounds on the Chicago carlot market while New York stock sold at $1.25 to $1.35 to jobbers in the East. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions closed at $3 to $3.65 per standard crate in terminal markets. Virginia Wakefield cabbage sold sharply higher at $2.50 to $3.25 per barrel crate in eastern cities, best stock $4 in Boston; $1.75 to $2.00 f. o. b. Norfolk. Aroma strawberries from Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee commanded $6 to $6.50 per 24-quart crate in city markets.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.40 for the top, and $11.80 to $12.25 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11.15; butcher cows and heifers $4.25 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.25 to $11.50; fat lambs $11.75 to $14.00; spring lambs $14.00 to $16.00; yearlings $9.25 to $12.25 and fat ewes $5.25 to $8.25.

Grain prices quoted May 27: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.68 to $1.85. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.91; Kansas City $1.68 to $1.75. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.70 to $1.72; St. Louis $1.68 1/2; Kansas City $1.60 to $1.74. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.07 1/2 to $1.08; No. 3 mixed corn Cicago $1.15 to $1.16; Minneapolis $1.06 1/2 to $1.07 1/2. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.18 to $1.19 1/4; St. Louis $1.17 1/2; Kansas City $1.13. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 1/2 to $1.17 1/2; Minneapolis $1.10 1/2 to $1.11 1/2. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.15 1/2; Kansas City $1.11; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.15 to $1.16. No. 3 white oats Chicago 45 3/4 to 46 1/4¢; Minneapolis 42 7/8 to 43 3/8¢; St. Louis 47 3/4¢; Kansas City 49¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 41 1/4¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 42 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 21 points, closing at 23.83¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 22 points, closing at 22.96¢.) (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 27,	May 26,	May 27, 1924
20 Industrials	129.13	128.43	90.15
20 R. R. stocks	99.53	98.83	83.02

(Wall St. Jour., May 28.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 51 Section 1 May 29, 1925.

GOVERNMENT ECONOMIES The press to-day says: "President Coolidge has ordered a study made of all the Government departments to determine where economies can be made without injuring efficiency. The plan of the President, operating through the Budget Director, is to bring about the reduction of the annual expenditures next year to below the $3,000,000,000 mark, in an effort to reduce taxes to the lowest possible point and inject business methods in Government. President Coolidge has been informed by the Budget Director that the personnel is entirely too large, that the present number of 65,000 Government employees, approaching within a few thousand that of the war peak, has not been reduced to anything like the proportion consistent with efficiency and proper economics. The largest forces are carried in the Navy and War Departments, War Veteran's Bureau and the Shipping Board..... The study is being made not only for the next fiscal year but for the entire period of the Coolidge Administration. The order sent to the heads of departments calls for reports on what can be reduced for the next fiscal year and for the period up to December, 1928....."

STANDARDS IN BUSINESS The importance of standards in the transaction of the Nation's business was emphasized May 27 by Secretary of Commerce Hoover, in an address before the eighteenth annual conference on weights and measures at the Bureau of Standards. Legislation which would regulate the ice cream industry for the benefit of the public was urged by Joseph G. Rogers, secretary of the department of weights and measures for New Jersey. He expressed himself in favor of a weight basis for measuring ice cream, stating that such a basis would "permit the proper and adequate supervision of all branches of the industry." (Press, May 28.)

The ice cream retailer generally pays about 20 per cent for air in his purchases from the manufacturer but can't sell it because it leaks out, A. W. Schwartz, of the public weights department of New Jersey, told the national conference on weights and measures yesterday in advocating the sale of ice cream by weight instead of volume. Figured on this basis, he said, the 40,000,000 quarts of ice cream sold by manufacturers in New Jersey last year at a wholesale price valuation of $13,200,000 represented a loss in "air" bought by the retailer of $2,640,000. It had been estimated, he added, that 80 per cent of the failures in the ice cream trade were due to "shrinkage." (Press, May 29.)

DAIRY MERGERS DENIED The press to-day states that Henry W. Breyer, president of the Breyer Ice Cream Company, said yesterday that reports in New York concerning a merger with the National Dairy Products Company are untrue. A denial was also made by the Supplee-Wills-Jones Company of any deal.

Section 2

Canning Industry

Commerce Monthly for June contains an article on the canning industry, which says in part: "The tremendous growth in the canning industry of the United States in recent years is evident from the fact that between 1909 and 1923 the output of canned vegetables increased 120 per cent and of canned fruit 268 per cent. This increase is the more striking when compared with a growth in population during that period amounting to but 22 per cent. To some extent factory-canned foodstuffs, because of their convenience, generally reliable quality and relative cheapness, have displaced the home-canned product. Also there has doubtless been some increase in exports of canned goods, although exact comparison is impossible because official trade returns for earlier years give value only. In most lines the total quantity exported even now, however, is not large as compared with domestic supplies..... In the export market fruits rank much above vegetables, the total quantity exported in 1924 being more than four times as large. Peaches ranked first, with a total of nearly 66,000,000 pounds shipped. Pears were not far behind and apricots and pineapples followed in the order named. Nearly 10,000,000 pounds of canned asparagus were exported in 1924. Next in importance came tomatoes, beans and corn, showing something over 6,000,000 pounds each. A little more than 13,000,000 pounds of canned soups were shipped in that year, a figure 6 per cent below the 1923 level. In all other items reported except tomatoes and in all fruits except plums there was an increase in exports in 1924 over 1923. The United Kingdom is the most important foreign customer of the United States for canned fruits and in 1924 that country including Ireland took 79 per cent of total shipments. Canada, second in importance, took 4 per cent. Of canned vegetables and soups Canada took considerably more than the United Kingdom. In 1924 the two countries together absorbed 86 per cent of soup shipments but only 38 per cent of the canned vegetables sent abroad."

Cooperative Marketing in Canada

An editorial in The Nor'-West Farmer for May 20 says: "Drives for membership in the pools now forming in the three Prairie Provinces will be underway early in June. In Saskatchewan additional acreage is wanted for the wheat pool, the objective being 75 per cent of the wheat acreage of the Province. Contracts for the coarse grain pool are ready for signing; the executives of the egg and poultry pool have organized a drive to put over that organization and the committee in charge of the livestock pool is holding meetings at points in all three provinces to arrive at the best type of organization for handling livestock. In Alberta additional contracts are wanted in the wheat pool, and dairy poultry and livestock pools are being formed. In Manitoba the coarse grain pool is being put across and additional members are wanted in the wheat pool. After less than two years experience the pool system of marketing is more popular than ever and there is no doubt but that the pools now under organization will be strongly supported."

Cotton Consumption

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for May 28 says: "A letter from the Director of the Census appearing in another column

on this page takes issue with certain statements made in our editorial of May 19, in which it was said that 'the March figures (of cotton consumption) showed a decline of about 30,000 bales from the preceding month, while the April figures show an increase of 15,000 bales from March.' The writer of the letter points out that consumption in March, instead of decreasing 30,000 bales, actually increased by approximately that amount. Official figures of the Census Bureau show February consumption at 550,132 bales, March consumption at 582,674 bales and April consumption at 597,104 bales. From these statistics it is to be seen that the statement, which was based on current press dispatches, that March consumption declined 30,000 bales, as compared with February was, unfortunately, in error. The Journal of Commerce therefore hastens to print this correction and to express regret that it should have been misled by press accounts. This newspaper must insist, however, that its main conclusion is fairly to be drawn from the figures as presented in the official reports in question. That is to say that 'the amount of cotton consumed was thus apparently falling off, according to Government figures, at a time (in March) when trade and other authorities were quite clear in their own minds that demand for cotton was increasing,' while, 'at the same time consumption of cotton has apparently tended to increase (in April), when the public supposed that current demands were declining.' If the monthly consumption statistics of the Government are reduced to a daily rate (the only fair mode of comparison, when the length of the months vary so substantially) on the basis of twenty-two working days in February, twenty-six working days in March and twenty-six working days in April, it is found that according to the Census reports we were consuming cotton at the rate of 25,000, 22,400 and 23,000 bales per day, respectively, in the months of February, March and April."

Cottonseed Rates

The press of May 28 states that railroads of the Southwest were ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission decision May 27 to establish by August 20 new rates on cottonseed, cottonseed oil and related oils and meals to accord with distant-rate scales previously laid down. The new schedules will control charges on the products moving out of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Western Louisiana and Eastern Texas producing territory, and in general will not result in material alteration of existing rates. One effect will be to establish a slightly higher level on cottonseed oil, with compensating reduction on cottonseed meal and cake.

Farm Advisory Council

A Chicago dispatch to the press of May 28 says: "O. E. Bradfute, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, made public May 27 the first step in the proposed organization of a national advisory council to act as an advisory body and lend permanence to the Grain Marketing Company. Mr. Bradfute explained the plan to a group of farm bureau, grain marketing and business men whom he called into a private conference at Chicago. The conference was a result, he said, of meetings held in Washington and elsewhere interested in cooperative marketing and 'concerned with the rehabilitation of agriculture from a national standpoint.'....'This national

advisory council may supplement,' Mr. Bradfute's statement said, 'what has already been done to the end of permanently establishing the Grain Marketing Company as a sound, cooperative agency, operating in accordance with the best banking and commercial practices for marketing the grain crops at the lowest possible cost to consumers. This national advisory council can furnish the invaluable assistance of prominent public men interested only in the farm movement; of recognized transportation experts; of nationally-known bankers with a thorough knowledge of the financing of grain crops; of agricultural economists who have made a life study of the cooperative movement; of prominent representatives of the milling industry and national consumers' organizations; of grain merchants of high standing and long experience; of editors of farm publications who exhaustively studied and followed the grain movement in its practical aspects; and, in addition to these prominent leaders of agricultural pools, associations and other agencies who have devoted all their energies during recent years to the development of the cooperative movement among farmers."

Federal Meat Inspection

At a meeting of the American Medical Association, at Atlantic City, May 27, Dr. W. H. Lipman, of Chicago, urged extension of Federal meat inspection, as a public health measure. He said: "Because the law of 1906 covers only those meats which enter into interstate or foreign commerce, the meats sold and consumed in the State where they are prepared are not inspected. These constitute about 40 per cent of the meat consumed in this country."

Jamaican Sugar

A Kingston, Jamaica, dispatch to the press of May 28 states that Major Ormsby-Gore has been asked by the Secretary of a West India committee to act toward having the increased preference on sugar in England take effect from the passing of a budget resolution instead of from July 1, as arranged.

Mexican Farmers and Labor Party

A Mexican City dispatch to the press of May 28 states that agrarians and laboristas came to the parting of the ways May 27 with the brusque refusal of Antonio Diaz Soto y Gama, the Agrarian leader, to confer with Luis Morones, Secretary of Labor, Industry and Commerce, on ways and means of patching up their differences. Senor Soto y Gama was quoted as saying the conference was unnecessary, as the difficulties could be solved simply by leaving the Agrarians alone.

Russian Flour Purchase

An editorial in Modern Miller for May 23 says: "In feeding the starving people of Russia, in which the United States gave its money, its efforts and its sincere sympathy, the reward is in the knowledge of a good act for humanity. There is no obligation in the way of reward, for kind acts are more than coronets. Many years ago, a crop failure in Russia enlisted the sympathy of American millers and a ship load of flour was despatched to ward off hunger. Mr. Herbert Hoover played a generous role for America in recent years in distributing about $100,000,000 in food and supplies to relieve

Russian distress. Many millers again contributed. And then came a time when Russia, able to promote its own welfare, found it necessary to purchase $16,000,000 worth of flour and having an agent in New York, placed this flour order with Canadian mills, without a thought of inviting offers from mills in the U. S. A. Our millers are good sports and congratulate our Canadian friends on securing without competition the world's largest flour order. They will not exhibit any enmity towards Soviet Russia, for exercising commercial privilege to buy when and how it determines. But as a problem in psychology, we may well ask, why? The answer we think is political commercialism. We refuse to recognize the Soviet, and wounded pride is a stronger emotion than gratitude...."

Rubber Production and Price

An editorial in The Wall Steet Journal for May 27 says: "How the British restriction of rubber production, after, and a long way after, our own demand, tended to raise the price of the commodity was well known here before the Commerce Department made public its interesting report. Less widely appreciated than the almost vertical rise in the price of crude rubber is the effect this valorization scheme has had upon production outside the British colonies, in which alone it applies. The Dutch East Indies have increased their exports by 75 per cent in two years. Moreover, the rise in price, under the Stevenson act, automatically calls for relaxation of the check upon export, besides making it possible for producers to pay the specified penalty of six cents a pound for exceeding the basic limit and still make a profit. Like all such plants, this one contains within it the seeds of amelioration, if not of destruction. Newspaper inferences that rubber profits will in future be sufficient to cover Great Britain's payments on its war debt to the United States are therefore unsound and illogical. What the Stevenson act has done to the rubber market is not necessarily permanent. Its initiation by some years preceded the great expansion in the world's use of rubber. This was partly due to rebound in most countries from the extreme prostration following the war and partly to the whole world's eager seizure of motor transport as an agency of industrial recovery. At the moment the indications are of further increase rather than decrease in demand, but it will be surprising if a scarcity price does not exert its usual influence on production. Apparently rubber must sell at about thirty cents a pound to yield the producers a moderate profit. It was selling under twenty cents less than two years ago. Plantation owners were doubtless justified in refusing to supply the world with rubber for nothing. But what of our own policy of exporting our irreplaceable copper or the easily exhaustible fertility of our wheat lands without adequate compensation? The wheat situation may be in the way of being remedied, since we may have no large exportable surplus this year. But copper, one-half of the United States production of which is estimated to bring less than its cost, including ore exhaustion, presents a strange contrast with British management of rubber....."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 28: Northern sacked Round White potatoes jumped to $1.75 to $2.00 per 100 pounds on the Chicago and Kansas City carlot markets with f. o. b. sales at $1.40 to $1.75 at shipping points. Alabama and Louisiana Bliss Triumphs closed at $4.25 to $4.50 on the Chicago carlot market; sales to jobbers in other midwestern cities ranged $3.75 to $4.00. In the East, South Carolina Irish Cobblers continued to bring $5.25 to $5.75 per slat barrel, advancing to $6.50 in Pittsburgh; $5 to $5.25 f. o. b. Charleston. Maryland and Delaware strawberries sold higher in eastern cities at 18 to 25¢ quart basis, top of 30¢ in Boston. Virginia Wakefield cabbage 50 to 75¢ higher at $2.25 to $3.00 per barrel crate, top of $4.50 in Boston; $2 to $2.25 f. o. b. Norfolk. Florida fancy wrapped tomatoes $3 to $4 per original six-basket carrier in consuming centers; $2.50 to $2.75 f. o. b. Ocala.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.80 for the top and $12.10 to $12.50 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers steady at $8.50 to $11.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.25 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.50 to $11.50; fat lambs $12.00 to $14.25; spring lambs $14.50 to $16.75; yearlings $9.50 to $12.50 and fat ewes $5 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 41 1/2¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43¢.

Grain prices quoted May 28: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.70 to $1.87. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.93; Kansas City $1.70 to $1.77. No. 3 red winter Chicago $1.89 1/2. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.72 1/2 to $1.73; St. Louis $1.70 1/2 to $1.71 1/2; Kansas City $1.60 to $1.77. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.14 to $1.14 1/4; Minneapolis $1.07 to $1.08. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.08 to $1.09. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.18 1/2 to $1.19 1/4; St. Louis $1.18; Kansas City $1.14. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.17 to $1.18; Minneapolis $1.11 to $1.12; No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.16 1/2 to $1.17; Kansas City $1.12. No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.16 to $1.17. No. 3 white oats Chicago 43 3/4 to 47¢; Minneapolis 44 3/4 to 45 1/4¢; St. Louis 48 1/2¢; No. 2 white oats Kansas City 50¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 18 points during the week, closing at 23.85¢ per lb. New York July future contracts up 23 points, closing at 23.02¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	May 28,	May 27,	May 28, 1924.
20 Industrials	129.60	129.13	89.90
20 R. R. stocks	99.26	99.53	82.67

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 52 Section 1 June 1, 1925.

THE PRESIDENT CALLS FOR STRONGER STATE RULE

In paying homage to the Nation's dead at Arlington on May 30, President Coolidge recalled the issues and the deeds that made heroes of those buried there and admonished the living of the trends in society and in government--of the lack of respect for law, and the over-centralization of Federal Government--the breaking down of the solidarity of the American system which rests fundamentally on strong State government. The whole tendency in government had been to permit the Federal Government to do more and more, while the States had not discharged their full duties, the President observed. "What we need is not more Federal government, but better local government," he said. "Yet many people who would agree to this have large responsibility for the lapses of local authority.... One insidious practice which sugar-coats the dose of Federal intrusion is the division of expense for public improvements or services between State and national treasuries..... When the National Treasury contributes half, there is temptation to extravagance by the State. We have seen some examples in connection with the Federal contributions to road building. Yet there are constant demands for more Federal contributions. Whenever by that plan we take something from one group of States and give it to another group there is grave danger that we do an economic injustice on one side and a political injury on the other....."

THE PRESIDENT APPROVES HOME SURVEY

The press to-day states that President Coolidge has sent a letter to Mrs. John R. Sherman, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, expressing his approval of the Nation-wide survey of home-making methods and facilities being carried on by the 3,000,000 members of the clubs. "What you have said about the plans of the General Federation for a Nation-wide survey of home-making methods and facilities has impressed me as having great possibilities of usefulness," the President wrote to Mrs. Sherman. "I am sure that some of the Government agencies will be able to give some substantial assistance and assume that you will afford them the opportunity. From what you have said of the plans I gather that the program is to be of a thoroughly practical character and I hope may be productive of much good to the women who have to conduct the affairs of the American homes." The federation, in its call to the clubwomen to make this survey, points out that nine-tenths of the clubwomen of the Nation are also home-makers.

DAIRY COOPERATION PLANNED

An Associated Press dispatch to-day states that methods of bringing about greater cooperation in the dairy industry will be considered at a national trade conference to be held in connection with the first summer session of the American Institute of Cooperation, between July 20 and August 15 at the University of Pennsylvania. This conference, plans for which were announced May 31, was decided on at a recent meeting at Washington of the American Dairy Federation, which has membership in the institute.

Section 2

Agriculture A Century Ago

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for May 22 says: "James Cleghorn of Scotland, in 1822, read en essay entitled 'The Depressed State of Agriculture before a meeting of the Highland Agricultural Society. We are indebted to Professor C. E. Reed of Michigan for the several following statements taken from his essay: 'The corn grower, the breeder, the hop planter, the dairyman, all complain that their returns are not equal in amount to their necessary outgoings; and their consequent embarrassment reaches the owners of every description of land on the one hand and the laborers whom they employ and those whom they are unable to employ on the other.**** The evil we imagine is that prices of land products are relatively low; and this has been occasioned, partly by the abundance of our crops, gathered from a field extended and improved during the war; and partly, perhaps chiefly, by the too early restoration of the currency, and the consequences must be, if a remedy be not speedily applied, the ruin of a large portion of the land owners and occupiers of the Kingdom, and a greatly diminished production, followed by high prices and large importation of foreign corn.**** Advised storing surplus of present abundance.**** Plead for economy in production. **** One-fourth too many horses. Ten shillings an acre might be saved by doing away with extra horses. Force of habit using four horses when two can do the work.' Here we have an essay, written more than a hundred years ago, containing statements very similar to those being made to-day. We have advanced in knowledge, have made wonderful progress through science and invention, but we still find the same forces at work and about the same problems to solve."

Butter Situation

An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for May 14 says: "During the past ten days a small quantity of butter has gone into the San Francisco storage houses. Compared with over 1,000,000 pounds last year at this date the 172,000 pounds this year seems insignificant. And it seems that this is being put away rather unwillingly. In fact, it is impossible to get a local dealer to admit that any of it is his butter. It is also reported that a goodly proportion of that which is in the coolers is contract butter. Forty-cent butter in the coolers in itself does not look so bad. The American people are prosperous enough to take care of it next fall and winter. But the big cloud on the butter speculator's horizon is the foreign butter, especially that produced in the antipodes. In this issue of the Review is a statement by Professor Theodore Macklin, who has recently had an opportunity to size up the dairy industry in New Zealand. What he says is not very encouraging to butter producers on this side of the equator. It is to be hoped that it will carry weight in the efforts that are being made to increase the import duty on butter. At this writing, so far as the coast country is concerned, it appears as though we are going to consume the butter as fast as it is produced and go outside for a lot of butter this fall and winter, and we shall not be surprised if a lot of it is New Zealand butter."

Evaporated Milk Sales

Sales of evaporated milk in the United States reached a total value of $117,272,585 in 1924, according to the annual report of the industry issued in Chicago by Herbert C. Hooks, secretary of the Evaporated Milk Association. Export sales last year totaled 2,959,236 cases, a gain of 107,437 cases over 1923. While European countries were the principal buyers, an extensive market for the product is being built up in Central and South America, said the report. (Press, May 28.)

Forestry in Georgia and Florida

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for May 21 says: "Attention was drawn at the meeting of the Georgia Forestry Association, Monday, to the opinion of experts that Waycross is the center of a territory in Georgia and Florida that is the fastest producing timber area in the world--or at least in North America. The growing season is very long, though not so long as that of South Florida. Perhaps that is all the better in the production of timber. Continual growth may not be so well for some trees, such as need a brief period of rest in which to consolidate their gains of wood made during active growth. Forest cultivation in such an area should be brought to the highest degree of proficiency. Where timber is produced fast should be the best place for experimentation in those methods which lead to produce the sturdiest vegetation. The results of experiments should be the earliest apparent in such an area. The indications of such efforts, where Mother Nature can most quickly manifest her approval, could be applied elsewhere to the benefit of reforestation of denuded or cut-over areas..... He was not going beyond the limits of probability when A. K. Sessoms, a prominent landowner in that section, said that pine growth in that area referred to offers one of the greatest industries in the world, and that in it lies untold wealth for Georgia and Florida..... Mr. Sessoms drew attention to the faith of the New Zealanders in the future that leads them to plant trees with the knowledge that they can not be cut for sixty years to come. Yet, in South Georgia and Florida timber can be produced in much less time and with the added advantage of many a paying crop of naval stores and other by-products while it is growing."

Livestock Marketing in Canada

The Nor'-West Farmer for May 20 says: "The Alberta livestock pool, now being organized, proposes, in addition to marketing livestock for its members, to carry on feeding operations, at least with hogs. It expects to make a good margin of profit on this end of the business. We believe it will. At any rate private individuals seem to be doing well buying light hogs and feeding them to market weights. Whether or not an organization such as the pool could carry on as successfully remains to be seen but that good money should be made in that branch of the business, we have no doubt. We have known men to grow comfortably well off finishing feeder hogs. If individuals can make good profits finishing pigs, why not the pool? And if the pool can manage the business to make money, buying feed, hiring men and maintaining plants for carrying on the work, why not

the hog raiser with cheaper feed, practically no expense for labor and with little or no investment in plant or equipment? If the pool develops this end of its business it will teach members a valuable lesson on the importance of finishing livestock on the farms; not hogs alone, but every class of livestock, for it is a notorious fact that the poor quality of stock marketed on western yards, and the poor price secured for same, results chiefly from the stock not being properly finished when marketed. There is no place better than the farm for finishing livestock and no one more than the producer is entitled to the better price that is secured where stock is properly finished."

Motors in Interstate Commerce

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 29 says: "In resolutions of a national conference of bus and truck operators it is easy to see a defensive move of scattered owners, not only against possibilities of hampering public regulation but against retaliatory competition from the railroads. Outwardly the resolutions take the form of a declaration for national regulation of buses and trucks in interstate commerce. Actually, they represent a preliminary effort to shape such regulation in the interest of existing highway services. Operators of such services have, of course, every right to be heard, but the suggested program of legislation is highly debatable. Inexpedient as it would be to put upon the Interstate Commerce Commission any more burdens than already staggering under, it is probably inevitable that all transportation agencies crossing State lines shall eventually be put under a single supervision. Motors are directly competitive of railroads and it is not easy to imagine them effectively regulated by any other agency than that which controls the railroads. But this conference, according to press reports, proposes that the Commerce Commission shall have power to issue certificates of public convenience and necessity for the operation of motor vehicles in interstate commerce; that it shall issue such certificates 'as a matter of course' if applications are approved by a State public utility commission; that in matters of taxation, equipment, safety and schedules State bodies shall control, and that 'operators engaged in business March 3, 1925,' shall virtually be regarded as entitled to continue in business without question.... It goes without saying that a great deal of water will have to flow over the dam before an interstate motor vehicle act is on the books. Secretary Jardine rightly declares against too restrictive legislation on highway transport; but likewise it must be recognized that such enactments can not be all on the side of undiscriminating encouragement. Motor owners will have to accept the limitations along with the advantages of national regulation."

"Pine Institute of America"

The Florida Times-Union for May 27 says: "Certain forward-looking men have organized what is to be known as the 'Pine Institute of America.' To be more nearly correct these men have started to organize such an institute. Naturally, they desire cooperation; something, there is every reason to believe, they will get when the public is more fully acquainted with their purposes.

Those who know the timber regions of this country, and particularly those of the South, are aware of the fact that these natural resources, lumber and naval stores especially, are being depleted very rapidly. They also realize that something practical must be done to protect and conserve these enormously valuable resources and assets. Not only must there be protection and conservation; there also must be replenishment or replacement. Along all these lines the Pine Institute of America proposes to operate. The projectors of this organization have made careful and practical study of timber and naval stores resources throughout the United States and in foreign countries, sending practical and experienced men to the latter to make thorough study of what has been done abroad in the matter of conservation and of replenishment of the sources from which come lumber and naval stores' supplies. As set forth in the report of the committee on permanent organization of the Pine Institute of America, a number of objects are sought. Among them, a scientific and practical study of cut-over lands, and their proposed use; to study the interests of producers of gum rosin and turpentine; to study and develop reforestation of cut-over lands and the means and methods of utilizing such lands most advantageously to those interested therein; to co-ordinate in a legitimate way the efforts of those interested in the utilization of cut-over lands and in the production, handling, sale, distribution and export of such production as have been named."

Traffic Bureau

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for May 22 says: "Practical farmers have been feeling that the Farm Bureau, the Farmers' Union, the Federated Shippers, the Corn Belt Meat Producers' Association, and our other farm organizations should be standing solidly behind a united program. We want to suggest that one thing on which all of these organizations can unite is a traffic department. In the South, we understand that some of the cotton organizations check over every freight bill as paid by the members and that the annual savings run into thousands of dollars a year. In Iowa we believe that the Farm Elevator Association does some systematic checking of freight bills, but aside from this very little is done except to send certain bills which are manifestly out of line to Chicago attorneys for adjustment. The lack of a really effective traffic bureau for Iowa farmers is doubtless costing them hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. If our Iowa farm organizations really do want to pull together on some one thing, why shouldn't they establish a traffic bureau whose duty it would be to check over freight bills for every farmer who belongs to the associated organization. Our farm organizations have differences of opinion about certain matters of theory, but they will find it quite easy to work together if they will join on practical matters of this sort which are of common concern."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS
(WEEKLY REVIEW)

Farm Products May 29: Chicago hog prices ranged from 30 to 45¢ higher than a week ago; medium and good beef steers 15 to 60¢ higher; butcher cows and heifers steady to 15¢ lower; feeder steers steady to 25¢ lower; light and medium weight veal calves 50¢ to $1 lower; fat lambs $1.25 to $1.40 higher; spring lambs 75¢ to $1 higher; yearlings 75¢ higher; fat ewes steady to 25¢ lower.

Midwestern potato markets closed strong, with prices sharply higher. Trend in the East was uncertain. Northern sacked Round Whites ruled $1.75 to $2 per 100 lbs. in midwestern cities; $1.45 to $1.75 f. o. b. north central points. California cantaloupes unsettled. Onion markets stronger, prices advancing. Strawberries generally higher. Best Missouri and Kentucky Aromas brought $6.25 to $6.50 per 24-quart crate in midwestern markets.

Grain market firm. Wheat futures sharply higher account reports crop damage by frost, insects and drought. Cash wheat slightly higher but not following advance in futures. Export demand slack. Corn about 2 1/2 to 4¢ higher on fears inquiry to growing crop. Flax slightly easier but other grains firm on pessimistic crop reports.

Butter markets reacted under heavier supplies early in the week, but recovered later and closed steady to firm. Storing under way on larger scale.

Cheese markets continue generally quiet although despite this price advances have occurred. Production increasing and full grass goods available on most markets. No interest in storing as yet.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 19 points during the week, closing at 23.83¢ per lb.; New York July future contracts advanced 16 points, closing at 22.98¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No.53 Section 1 June 2, 1925.

MILLERS ON GRAIN SPECULATION

A Minneapolis dispatch to the press of June 2 says: "Either the organized grain exchanges of the country must revise their rules so as to curb excessive speculation, or the next Congress will be called upon to pass the most drastic grain-trading law ever proposed. This is the view of some leaders in the grain trade in Minneapolis. The milling business here believes future trading in grain is necessary until some better way is found for handling the crop, but millers in general are strongly opposed to the unleashed speculation by clerks, shopgirls, and others who are in no way identified with the grain business....."

CLUBS SEEK RURAL WOMEN

A West Baden, Ind., dispatch to the press of June 2 states that plans for carrying into rural districts the club life enjoyed by women of the cities will be inaugurated during the Biennial Council of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, sessions of which opened at West Baden, June 1. "The Federation is topheavy with city women," said Mrs. J. D. Sherman, president. "We need the rich and fundamental things the rural women can give us and we feel that we can aid them."

FIVE CENT LOAF

A Cincinnati dispatch to the press of June 2 states that the pound loaf of bread for 5 cents, which disappeared with the advent of the World War, returned on June 1. A cut in the price from 7 cents to 5 cents was announced by a chain grocery store.

FLEET TO BUY FOOD IN AUSTRALIA

Secretary Wilbur announced June 1 that he had requested Secretary Kellogg to authorize the Consul Generals at Melbourne, Sydney, Wellington and Auckland to contract for additional food supplies for the American Battle Fleet when it reaches these parts. They are expected to buy 280,000 pounds of provisions, which navy officers will inspect on the docks before delivery to the ships. (Press, June 2.)

COTTON EXCHANGE HEAD

Richard T. Harriss, vice president of the New York Cotton Exchange, was elected president for the 1925-1926 term yesterday to succeed Edward E. Bartlett jr., who has served two terms. Samuel T. Hubbard jr., was elected vice president and James F. Maury reelected treasurer. There was only one ticket in the field. (Press, June 2.)

Section 2

British Agricultural Report

The Field (London) for May 21 says: "The Ministry of Agriculture has issued the second of its series of reports on economic questions. Mr. Noel Buxton, when he was Minister of Agriculture, appointed a committee of three -- Messrs. A. W. Ashby, R. R. Enfield and E. M. H. Lloyd -- to consider the stabilization of agricultural prices, and the present report is the result of their labors. The committee was evidently impressed with the need for more orderly methods of marketing in Great Britain. They say the agricultural markets should be supplied 'according to their needs, instead of (as at present) according to the amount of produce which the farmers have, at the moment, available for sale.' Collective or centralized trading, as found in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the Argentine, might regulate effectively the flow of agricultural produce to market so as to minimize the possibility of markets becoming congested. It is well to realize that our problems differ fundamentally from those of the exporting countries, but the successful development of wool marketing organizations in this country suggests that such action may be practicable with other farm products. The committee sums up by saying that 'the economic conditions which ordinarily determine the prosperity of agriculture are not only no worse than before the war, but have changed slightly to the farmer's advantage. In these conditions there is nothing to prevent the business of farming being pursued at least as successfully as in 1913. On the other hand, there are two factors which, we think, may prove prejudicial to a revival of agricultural prosperity. Firstly, there can be little doubt that many farmers lost a large amount of their war savings during the fall in prices in 1920, 1921 and 1922, that they are in need of capital, and in many cases, may be more indebted to the banks and others than before the war. Secondly, the farmer -- particularly the stable farmer -- has lost confidence. On this account we should not be surprised to see a further decline in the arable acreage, notwithstanding that it might not be justified by the course of prices; for so long as the farmer is in a state of uncertainty, he is bound to be guided primarily by considerations of prudence and safety. In other words, while there is every sign that its general economic environment is favorable to a revival of British agriculture, the difficulty at the moment is that the farmer does not believe it. In our opinion the immediate need of agriculture is, therefore, the restoration of confidence in the reasonable stability of the economic conditions upon which alone agricultural enterprise can prosper. We suggest that in the more scientific organization of marketing lies the best hope of the permanent improvement of British agriculture.'"

Canadian Fur Crop

The press of June 1 states that raw furs valued at $15,643,817 were produced in Canada last year, the bureau of statistics reports. Silver and red fox, mink, otter, lynx and coyote fur recorded an increase in output over 1923. In point of aggregate value the muskrat was the most important fur-producing animal, contributing 2,985,395 pelts worth $3,440,363, followed by beaver with 169,173

pelts valued at $2,542,992, and mink with 219,641 pelts worth $2,113,569. White fox and silver and red foxes ranked next.

Cooperation

An editorial on cooperation in The Field Illustrated for June says: ".....It is well that we use the magic word cautiously. Many crimes may be, have been and are committed in its name. Cooperative organization in the farm field are essential, in fact indispensable. They have proven effective in small units, in localities and sections, where producers are brought into close contact by mutual interest. Here common understanding is readily attainable. Working through the smaller units, the idea may be refined and enlarged with experience, so that eventually we may have associations that are national and even international in character and scope. But in its present stage of development, it is dangerous to attempt to apply the plan over too wide a field. Exploiters will attempt it, and present plausible plans as a cure-all for existing troubles. But most plans to aid the farmers are an attempt to cure the disease by treating the symptoms. And the disease is over-production caused by too many farmers and too much utilized farm land. If the incompetent farmers could be eliminated -- as they undoubtedly will be as skill and intelligence refines the industry -- the good farmers of the land could prosper. As matters stand the good farmers are penalized with the bad, and there is no cure save education -- modern farms with modern farmers who know how to utilize the soil to produce the best, and how to merchandise their products of the soil to best advantage."

Education of Farm Boys

The American farm boy to-day, according to the Federal Bureau of Education, is getting less education than any other group of children. Responsibility for this situation is attributed to economics. The bureau's report shows that profitable employment has had a detrimental effect on high school attendance by farm boys in many rural communities throughout the country as well as the fact that opportunities for attending rural high school, except in certain States, have been limited. On the other hand, it is shown that farm girls living in rural districts are obtaining a better education than farm boys. This is due to the fact that the farm boy is economically useful at home. His labor is worth something and little relationship between high school training and occupational success has been established in the minds of the farmers or farm boys. The labor of girls on the farm, however, is not so valuable. Custom is against the girls working at outdoor farm tasks. The natural result is they attend high school in large numbers. (Press, May 31.)

Food and Population

T. N. Carver, professor of economics, Harvard University, is the author of a lengthy article entitled "Food and People Problems Shown," in The Washington Post for May 31. He says in part: "A number of people seem to be worrying over the problem of food and population. The population problem at present is not a food problem at all. It is primarily a problem of occupational congestion, and therefore secondarily a wage problem. The only food problem that any one

needs to worry about is how to find buyers for what our farmers can grow. As far as we can understand the problem of the future, that will be true for the next 40 or 50 years. To be specific, our only food problem is a problem of food surplus and not of food deficit. In opposition to this the high prices which consumers have to pay is cited as evidence of the food deficit. This, however, is mainly a matter of spread between the price which farmers get and the price which consumers have to pay. This spread is absorbed somewhere between the farmer and the consumer by a large group commonly called middlemen. A great many attempts have been made to find less expensive methods of getting the farmers' crops into the hands of consumers. No real solution has yet been found..... This is not saying that there never has been and never can be a population problem. Every economist is, as a matter of course, a Malthusian. He would not be much of an economist if he did not recognize certain fundamental principles, such as the law of diminishing returns and the tendency of population to increase up to the limit of subsistence. For a long time to come, however, we must find our real population problems in the fact of congestion rather than in the fact of general overpopulation....."

Forest Week

An editorial in American Forests and Forest Life for June says: "The first American Forest Week, proclaimed as such by the President of the United States, has come and gone. It was a great success. Because of it the American soil is richer by a good many hundreds of thousands of little trees which, in the passing years, will grow into useful citizens. The American public is richer in the possession of a broader and more intimate knowledge of its forest needs. After all, planting the seeds of knowledge is planting future forests. Observation of the week was Nation-wide. It touched every phase of forest protection and restoration. From Florida to California and from Maine to Oregon, reports indicate active cooperation on the part of individuals in every walk of life and organizations of widely different interests. From the great radio stations in our larger cities down to the teachers in the little country schoolhouses messages of forest preservation were broadcast to American boys and girls, men and women. It would be impossible to enumerate the many different groups which participated actively in American Forest Week. They included boy and girl scouts, school children, women's clubs, civic and commercial organizations, trade and conservation associations, railroads, lumber and mining companies, moving-picture houses, newspapers, and public-spirited individuals, acting singly or collectively. The diversity of interests which participated in the week is a clear reflection of the rapidly growing public concern in America's forest problems; and the fine spirit of cooperation which marked the week's activities everywhere is convincing evidence of the educational force which lies in American organizations -- once it can be drawn together into an educational campaign in behalf of the common welfare..... It is the feeling of the committee that American Forest Week should be made a permanent institution, and we believe that the participating organizations share that feeling. Productive though the first week has been, it has barely scratched the surface of the

great educational field of popular forestry which needs to be intensively cultivated....."

Meat Situation In its monthly review of the livestock and meat situation, issued May 31, the Institute of American Meat Packers states in part: "The beef trade was draggy during virtually all of the month just closed and wholesale quotations moved downward. The trade in pork products, both fresh and smoked, showed some improvement over the previous month and prices strengthened somewhat. Hog prices, however, remained at relatively high levels and packers continued to suffer losses on current pork operations. The export trade in pork products during May showed only slight improvement over the dull trade of the previous month. Hog prices at Chicago ranged above 12 cents per pound during most of the month and at the close were some 65 per cent. higher than they were a year ago."

Raisin Market Commerce Monthly for June contains an article on the raisin market. This says: "Expansion of the Australian raisin industry since the war, resulting from the desire to settle returning soldiers upon the land, has injected a new factor into international trade in raisins just at a time when American growers have been seeking an outlet for increased crops. By far the greater part of United States production is consumed within the country but exports are of sufficient volume that any serious curtailment would be of very real significance to the trade. Canada and the United Kingdom are the principal export markets for United States raisins. In the last two years Canada alone has taken over 40 per cent of total raisin exports and the two countries together since the close of the war have absorbed three-fourths of the raisins shipped from the United States. It is precisely in these two markets that Australian competition, with the aid of preferential tariffs, tends to focus. A good volume of trade has been retained in some Continental countries and in New Zealand; Mexico is a consistent though not a heavy purchaser, and outlets have developed in China and Japan. The very marked drop in shipments to the United Kingdom in the last two years is evidence of the pressure of Australian competition, as total imports of raisins into that country have been increasing during this period and Australia has more than gained what the United States lost. The general duty imposed upon raisins entering the United Kingdom is 7 shillings per hundredweight, or 1.5 cents per pound at par of exchange. Under the preferential arrangement which went into effect on September 1, 1919, Australia is permitted a reduction of one-sixth of the duty. The new budget proposes that the preference be extended to a remission of the whole amount of the duty. According to present information, this change, if made, will become effective July 1, 1925....."

Road Accidents in Britain In the calendar year 1924 there were 3,631 fatal road accidents in the United Kingdom, and 94,584 non-fatal accidents, or a total of 98,215 accidents in all, according to official figures just received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York. Accidents in 1923 amounted to 83,101, of which 2,979 resulted fatally and 80,122 were not fatal. These accidents are those known by the police to have

been caused by vehicles in streets, roads, or public places in Great Britain. Of the fatal accidents in 1924 258 were chargeable to horse drawn vehicles, 241 to pedal cycles and 3,132 to mechanically propelled vehicles. Of the non-fatal accidents, 6,288 were caused by horse drawn vehicles, 18,363 by pedal cycles and 69,933 by mechanically propelled vehicles.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 1: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.25 for the top and $11.70 to $12.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.35; butcher cows and heifers $4.25 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.50 to $11.50; fat lambs $14.25 to $16.75; yearlings $12 to $14.25; fat ewes $4.75 to $8.

South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at $5.50 to $6.50 per slat barrel in leading eastern markets; $5.50 f. o. b. Charleston. New York sacked Round Whites ranged $1.35 to $1.85 in the East and northern stock $1.65 to $1.85 on the Chicago carlot market. Imperial Valley, Salmon Tint, cantaloupes standards 45' sold at $7 to $9 in consuming centers; $2 f. o. b. El Centro. Georgia early varieties of peaches were mostly lower, ranging $2.50 to $3.50 per six-basket crate in city markets, top of $5 in New York. Delaware and New Jersey strawberries, various varieties, 22 to 28¢ quart basis in eastern markets. Missouri and Kentucky Aromas $6 to $6.50 in the Middle West.

Grain prices quoted June 1: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.60 1/2 to $1.76 1/2. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.90 to $1.94; Kansas City $1.73. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.66 1/2 to $1.68; St. Louis $1.66; Kansas City $1.57 to $1.68. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.06 1/2 to $1.08 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.15 to $1.16; Minneapolis $1.05 3/4 to $1.06 3/4. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.18 to $1.23; St. Louis $1.16 1/2 to $1.17; Kansas City $1.11 to $1.13. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 1/4 to $1.18 1/4; Minneapolis $1.08 3/4 to $1.09 3/4. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.15 1/2 to $1.16; Kansas City $1.09 1/2 to $1.11; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.17 to $1.17 3/4.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 43¢; Chicago 42 3/4¢; Boston 44¢; Philadelphia 44¢.

Closing prices on Wisconsin primary cheese markets May 29: Twins 22 3/4¢; Daisies 22 3/4¢; Young Americas 22 3/4¢; Longhorns 23¢; Square Prints 24¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 3 points, closing at 23.80¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 6 points, closing at 22.92¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 1,	May 29,	May 29, 1924.
20 Industrials	129.69	129.95	89.90
20 R. R. stocks	99.10	99.98	82.29

(Wall St. Jour., June 2, 1925.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 54 Section 1 June 3, 1925.

THE COTTON REPORT

P. W. Garrett, writing from New York to The Philadelphia Ledger to-day says: ".....To the layman such a report does not mean much, but in the central markets, where prices are determined on the basis of future supply and demand, the meaning is perfectly clear. To the specialists the figure meant that the present statistical outlook is favorable to a sizable cotton crop. In other words, to the trader the report was bearish, and when trading in futures was resumed the price broke 50 points. So much for the technical side. What may we learn from the report and what does it leave to future development? A condition of 76.6 per cent means that the crop now is in a more favorable position, so far as can be judged by the statistics, to produce in volume than at any time since 1918. It is the best condition in seven years. It compares with 65.6 for a year ago and with an average of 72 for the last ten years....."

BRITAIN TO ESTABLISH FOOD COMMISSION

A London dispatch to the press to-day states that Prime Minister Baldwin, addressing a mass meeting of Conservatives at Welbeck Abbey last night, announced that the Government proposed, on the Food Commission's recommendations, to set up a permanent food council to watch prices and supplies. The council will be of representative character and will study the problem of food prices where the commission left off. It will be charged with the duties of watching prices and supplies of the principal foodstuffs, advising the Government on all food questions, examining complaints and making public from time to time in periodical reports important facts about food prices. If experience shows compulsory powers are necessary, the Government will not hesitate to ask Parliament for any powers that may be required. The Government proposes to consult representatives of local authorities and if they are satisfied that the system of registration of butchers would be practical and in the interests of the consumer, it would invite the food council to report as to conditions of registration and grounds on which registration should be cancelled or temporarily suspended. The Government has adopted the recommendation of the food commissioners that cold storage proprietors should be required to furnish statistics of food in cold storage."

WANNAMAKER ASKS AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

The press of June 2 states that President Wannamaker of the American Cotton Association, St. Matthews, S. C., has transmitted a letter to Secretary Jardine, urging that he issue a call for a general agricultural conference, to be attended by representative farmers from all sections of the Nation, to be held at Washington on convenient dates in the near future, the leading subjects suggested for consideration and discussion at such conference include definite relief measures for American agriculture that will find definite and practical expression in an expansion of markets for leading staple farm products, and the establishment of a specific bureau at Washington to ascertain the average cost of producing staple farm products and make this information available to the producers during periods of harvesting and before such products pass into the markets for sale.

Section 2

British Food Inquiry

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 1 says: "After taking a great deal of evidence to establish the causes of the high prices of foodstuffs in Great Britian, the Royal Commission on Food Prices has issued a first report dealing with meat and bread. In view of the heated charges of extortion and profiteering that preceded the appointment of the commission the reports agree that findings and recommendations are of a very mild character. Little evidence of excessive profits was adduced in the case of either the retail or wholesale trades in bread, flour, wheat and meat products. Retail bakers were said to be obtaining profits of from 7 per cent to 10 per cent in some instances, while smaller concerns were earning even more. Although these small concerns' figures do not seem exeessive, they are made the basis for a suggestion of graded reductions in bread prices. As for the wholesale trade, the commission said it had no doubt that 'the more efficient firms' could reduce the price of bread, but evidently general reduction was believed to be incompatible with the existing trade organization which, however, the commission thought could be improved. It is especially noteworthy that the commission found no evidence to support the contention that wheat prices in Great Britain had been unfavorably influenced by speculation. 'Witnesses connected with the grain trade have,' they say, 'advanced the theory that the operations of speculators are on the whole an advantage to the British consumer and enable him to secure his bread at somewhat less than its true economic value.' The commission adds that although the number of firms engaged in the international wheat trade is small there is no evidence of exploitation of the consumer. On the contrary, competition appears to be keen and unrestricted, as is asserted by the wheat buyer for the English Cooperative Wholesale Society, one of the largest operators on the market. On the whole the businesses engaged in the distribution of meat are also given a clean bill of health. Swollen profits, where existent, are usually found in the retail trade and not in the wholesale and importing sections, which have attracted the public suspicion as a rule. Altogether, the report is calculated to dissipate quite a number of erroneous ideas, and the recommendations that the trade in meat and breadstuffs shall be 'supervised' by a permanent Food Council are by no means radical, although they may appear so to the British opponents of trade restraint in any form. As one writer says: 'Clearly no case has been made for plunging into State purchase and sale of food; but there can be no harm and there may result much good from this less spectacular but more promising experiment in systematic publicity.'"

Business Conditions

The review of the National City Bank of New York for June 2 says: "There has been little change in business conditions during the past month, but on the whole confidence is stronger. he depressing influence of declining prices in the grain and stock markets has passed off, these markets having made good recoveries. The opinion now prevails that the reaction in both markets was overdone. Wheat has recovered about one-half of its precipitate decline from the high

point of the year, and the New York Times list of 50 standard stocks on May 22nd stood at an average of 112.91, the highest average on these stocks in the present year. The low average on these stocks was 101.16, touched on March 26. Undoubtedly sentiment upon the general situation was unduly disturbed by the March declines. Complaints about the state of business, and particularly about the profits of business, are common, but evidently somebody is doing a large volume of business. From January 1 to May 16 this year 18,434,894 cars of revenue freight were loaded on the railroads, against 17,821,195 cars in the corresponding period of 1924, 18,009,683 in the corresponding period of 1923 and 15,059,900 cars in the corresponding period of 1922. The figures for this year are the largest on record for the corresponding period of the year. Moreover, the excess of loadings this year over those of 1923 has been despite the fact that coal, coke, ore, grain and livestock loadings have been in the aggregate less by 41,210 cars in 1925 than in 1923. The excess of merchandise and miscellaneous freight was enough larger to more than make good the loss in these classes, and merchandise and miscellaneous freight are most significant of general industrial activity. Last year's grain crops moved to market earlier than usual. In only three weeks thus far in 1925 have the loadings fallen below those of the corresponding weeks of 1924 and in only six weeks have they fallen below the corresponding weeks of 1923, the greatest previously known....."

Canadian Flour Rates

The Northwestern Miller for May 27 says: "The proposal of the Federal Government of Canada to subsidize a new line of ocean steamships for the purpose of controlling the rates of freight on Canadian products going to United Kingdom and other markets is now before Parliament. The bill to implement the agreement with a British shipping company has had its first reading and is in the committee stage. It is likely to have a stormy career, judging from the opening debate in Parliament. Atlantic shipping interests are appearing before the parliamentary committee, and have presented a mass of evidence that contradicts the Canadian shippers' contentions. The milling industry of Canada has a vital interest in this question. It spent many years before the war in pleading for justice to the exporting flour trade, and had to take up the same old burdens and the same old arguments when the war was over. Indeed, some of the rates charged for carrying Canadian flour since the war were so unreasonably high that the Imperial Shipping Committee found it necessary to interfere and force a readjustment. At present the rates so imposed upon the shipping companies are in effect, and to that extent Canadian millers have less ground of complaint; but they will welcome a general reduction if the Government's plans should prove successful..... The fight of Canadian millers against rates of the Atlantic shipping combine has had two main grounds of complaint. Firstly, that rates on flour as compared with wheat are generally out of all proportion to the difference in the cost of these services and, secondly, that rates to United Kingdom ports are unreasonably high in comparison with rates to continental Europe. At one time, in 1920 and later, Canadian flour had to pay sixty-five cents per hundred pounds to the United

Kingdom, as against forty-five cents to Rotterdam and similar continental destinations. The disparity between wheat and flour at that time was equally discriminatory."

Cotton and Rubber

An editorial in The New York Times for June 2 says: "The British method of restricting the production of rubber was disapproved in America almost on the day when Americans began 'cooperating' to restrict the manufacture of cotton goods. Yesterday it was announced that operators of 4,000,000 spindles and 85,000 looms had agreed on a week's stoppage. It is expected that ultimately 10,000,000 spindles will 'cooperate' in this shutdown. The British answer to our complaints about rubber happens to be substantially the same as the defense of our cotton restrictionists. In both cases the rising prices caused overproduction and threatened industrial collapse. It was enacted by the British Colonial authorities that rubber exports should be proportioned to the market, the quantities allowed to be exported rising with the price. Restriction kept in use the overplantings which would have been abandoned if the price had not gone up. London blames our overconsumption rather than British restriction for the runaway rise in rubber. The restrictive act seems merely an incident in an abnormal post-war condition. Our cotton manufacturers do not regard themselves as conspirators in restraint of trade. They have bought cotton so freely that they have raised the price above that at which they can sell goods profitably. For the three months beginning with February the official count of cotton consumed has been 550,132,582,674 and 597,104 bales. The trade is restricting production except on orders. Self-regulation of business has no fears of the Trade Commission when it acts to stop losses and not to make undue profits."

Grain Marketing Company

A Chicago dispatch to the press of June 2 says: "The signing by counsel for the Grain Marketing Company of a stipulation that it shall sell no more stock in Illinois until July 28, was followed June 1 by an announcement from the Illinois Agricultural Association that it would now turn its attention to a 'constructive marketing program.' The Illinois Agricultural Association had petitioned the Illinois Commerce Commission to place the company under its jurisdiction as a public utility, contending that more than $5,000,000 worth of the properties of the company, valued at more than $16,000,000 altogether, were Illinois elevators leased by five merged companies, vendors and subleased by the Grain Marketing Company. It was agreed that the case be continued until July 28, the date when the option of the Grain Marketing Company on the properties will expire. The continuance was agreed to by the complaining association, on condition that the defendant company sell no more stock in Illinois."

Mosquito Fight Begun

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago to the press of June 1 says: "The opening of a Nation-wide campaign of extermination against the mosquito was announced May 31 by Gorgas Memorial Institute. An outline of definite home aids in the anti-mosquito war has been prepared and widely distributed by the institute."

Section 3.

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 2 says: "According to Washington dispatches the question of discontinuance of Government forecasts of cotton production prior to September is again under consideration. Dissatisfaction with the particularly poor showing the Crop Reporting Board made last year in the case of cotton is said to have become widespread, and complaints with respect to it and the harmful influence it exerted in the cotton market throughout the country are said to have brought the Department of Agriculture to the point where it may 'seek the views' of growers and others with regard to a policy of refusing to publish forecasts of production until late enough in the season to tender such predictions possible on a fairly safe basis. As to this it may be said at once that the record shows too clearly for any dispute that the so-called early forecasts of the Government have on the average been so far astray as to be worthless or worse, and that the September prediction has as a rule been close enough to the actual output to afford a moderately fair sort of basis for practical operations. If, therefore, the Department of Agriculture should dicontinue its forecasts earlier in the year some of the evils of the present system might be eliminated..... The simple truth of the situation is that not only the Government forecasts as such but its whole system of cotton crop reports are wanting in precision and dependability. Unimpeachable authorities have shown clearly enough that the whole method of arriving at the status of the crop by compiling condition as a percentage of normal is inherently unsatisfactory and not well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed. The Government would do well not only to desist from all predictions either early in the season or at any time, but it would do better to go a step further and give their whole cotton crop reporting a thorough overhauling. Its accounts of conditions in cotton growing districts ought to be confined to definitely, objectively ascertained facts about acreage, weather and other controlling factors. Upon the basis of such scientific information private interests could, of course, develop their own methods of forecasting if they desired, but such predictions would not carry the weight of Government recommendation or indorsement, and accordingly would stand a much better chance of being judged by everyone concerned upon their proved merits."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 2: Chicago hog prices closed at $12.35 for the top; bulk of sales $11.85 to $12.25; medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.50; butcher cows and heifers $4.15 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.25 to $11.25; fat lambs $14 to $16.25; yearlings $11.75 to $14; fat ewes $4.50 to $8.

North Carolina Cobblers $6 to $6.50 per stave barrel in New York; $5.25 to $5.75 f. o. b. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs $4.00 to $4.25 per 100 pounds in the Middle West, with Arkansas and Oklahoma stock mostly $4. Salmon Tint cantaloupes from California Imperial Valley ranged $6.50 to $8.00 per standard 45 in consuming centers; mostly around $1.75 f. o. b. El Centro. Early varieties of Georgia peaches sold from $2.40 to $4.00 per six-basket carrier in city markets, top of $5 for Red Birds in New York; with Uneeda mostly $1.30 to $1.50 f. o. b. Macon. Florida fancy tomatoes $2.75 to $4.25 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; $2.50 f. o. b. Ocala. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 22 to 30 pound average, ranged $500 to $850 bulk per car in a few markets; $300 to $350 f. o. b. Leesburg section.

Grain prices quoted June 2: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolies $1.61 to $1.76. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.89 to $1.91 1/2 No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.60 1/4 to $1.64; St. Louis $1.63; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.08 3/4 to $1.12; No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.14 1/4 to $1.17; St. Louis $1.13 1/2 to $1.14; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 to $1.15 1/4; Minneapolis $1.05 to $1.06; No. 3 white corn St. Louis $1.12 1/2 to $1.13; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.11 1/4 to $1.12 1/2; No. 3 white oats Chicago 45 1/4 to 46 3/4¢; Minneapolis 43 5/8 to 44 1/8¢; St. Louis 47 1/2 to 48¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 35 points, closing at 23.45¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 33 points, closing at 22.59¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 2,	June 1,	June 2, 1924.
20 Industrials	130.42	129.69	90.15
20 R. R. stocks	98.81	99.10	82.15

(Wall St. Jour., June 3.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 55 Section 1 June 4, 1925.

DAIL ACTS FOR IRISH RELIEF

A Dublin dispatch to the press of June 4 states that the Irish Free State Parliament June 3 voted 65,000 pounds for agricultural and unemployment relief work, based upon proposals by Finance Minister Blythe. If the weather in Ireland continued to be as bad as it was last year, more funds would be necessary, said the Cabinet member. His proposal was indorsed by a vote of 37 to 19. Major Bryan Cooper, in the discussion preceding the vote, said the small farmers and laborers of West Ireland faced a serious situation and something should be done for them.

ROAD EXPENDITURES IN BRITAIN

The expenditures of the British government in the construction and maintenance of roads in the year ended March 31, 1924, amounted to 14,441,000 pounds, according to an official statement received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British information service. Of this amount 7,939,000 pounds went for the maintenance and improvement of class 1 and 2 roads and bridges, while 2,909,000 pounds was used in a special programme in certified "unemployment" areas. The principal portion of this latter amount, viz: 2,141,000 pounds, was contributed to local authorities which were giving employment to those who were out of work, while 768,000 pounds was used for works being carried on for benefiting the unemployed by the Ministry of Transport through contractors. Commitments to the road fund existing on March 31, 1924, for road works expedited for the relief of the unemployed, were estimated at 14,246,000 pounds. On March 31, 1924, there was to the credit of the road fund the sum of 17,276,000 pounds. Against this balance there were liabilities to the extent of 22,240,000 pounds, on account of the commitments on road works for the relief of unemplyment, grants made but not paid, and for other purposes. The excess of liabilities over the balance on hand on March 31, was approximately 5,000,000 pounds, which was due to the anticipation of future revenue with treasury approval, for the purpose of entering into commitments for work undertaken especially with a view to the relief of unemployment.

STACPOOLE URGES BIRD CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to the press of June 4 states that the latest proposal for an international conference comes from Henry de Vere Stacpoole, author. Mr. Stacpoole is impressed by what he calls the "tragedy of seabirds starved by fuel oil discharged from ships," and has written the following public appeal on the problem, which he says is universal: "Bind man hand and foot and leave him in the wilds to get a living. He will starve. The oiled seabirds starve because they are bound foot and feather by oil. They do nothing but drift on tides till death puts an end to their sufferings or heavy weather casts them ashore..... With the Governmental help of great nations using the sea, and especially of America, it is within our power to end this terrible business."

Section 2

Crop Reports

The Grain Growers' Guide, (Winnipeg) for May 27 says: "The farmer everywhere, so far as his vocation is concerned, lives in a glass house into which thousands of curious and deeply interested eyes are peering daily. Every day in the year bulletins are issued on the state of his affairs, and how he is being affected by drought or damp, storms or frost, rust or insect pests. A large number of people want to know how many acres he has under wheat, or cotton, or fruit, and how much he expects to harvest. Innumerable private institutions make it their business to report on the condition of his business, and his particular government assists in collecting and disseminating the information. He is the most carefully-watched producer in the whole wide world, and it is not in his exclusive interest that the watching is done. Not by a long way. The farmer in these prairie provinces has no sooner got his seeder oiled and in working order than he becomes the center of the country's economic interest. Everybody begins talking about crop prospects. Reports upon crop conditions collated with similar reports from other countries exert an influence upon the market, and are reflected in the tendency of prices. The game of the speculator lies in these price tendencies and in fluctuations. If there were no fluctuations the occupation of the speculator would be gone. It is impossible in a product like wheat, grown and marketed all over the world, to prevent fluctuations in price, but economic justice does demand that the fluctuations approximate to the actual market conditions. The efforts that are all too frequently made to stimulate business by booster crop reports are good neither for general business nor the farmer, and in the main they represent either an extremely foolish optimism or a calculated effort to influence the market, and in either case they prevent the stability which conduces to the general economic good. The farmer is not well enough organized as yet to bring a stabilizing influence to bear on a market that is so delicately responsive to both the hopes and fears of genuine traders and the machinations of speculators, but something could be done toward stabilization by ensuring that crop reports are kept well within limits of probability."

Eggs

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June 6 says: "The poultry-production map of the world has undergone remarkable changes in the past fifteen years. Everywhere, possibly except Russia, flocks seem to have increased, but the number of eggs in world commerce has diminished. Commerce figures of the various countries show that fifteen years ago about 700,000,000 dozens of eggs in the shell were required while in 1923 only 450,000,000 were needed. In 1910 Russia exported 264,000,000 dozens of eggs; England imported 215,000,000 dozens and Germany 275,000,000. England still takes about the same number, but Germany has practically faded out of the picture. China now holds first rank as an exporting nation with about 90,000,000 dozens. Each country is now more nearly producing its own requirements. The eggs that do get into commerce are mainly to take care of the seasonal declines in production in the various countries. In the United States the perfection of cold-storage methods makes importing unnecessary while the growing demands of our population for eggs leaves us each year

without a surplus. In 1910 the production of eggs in this country was 1,293,000,000 dozens. By 1924 production had jumped to more than 2,200,000,000 dozens. This figures out to about 20 dozen eggs a year for every American, a tremendously high average and one that indicates widespread prosperity. It does not seem likely that home consumption can be very much increased or that other countries are in a position to absorb large quantities of eggs at present prices. The world's poultry map does not encourage expansion of production at this time."

Grain Trade Investigation

The Grain Growers' Guide (Winnipeg) for May 27 says: ". . . . . The investigation commenced under this act (Grain Futures Act) is thus one of great consequence to both growers of and legitimate traders in grain, and in view of the course of prices in the period designated, it has an important bearing on the value of the act itself. It is, therefore, of some significance that the United States Department of Agriculture announces that the investigation so far has revealed evidence 'which would show an attempted or actual manipulation of the market,' although 'proof necessary for the conviction of those who might be charged with a violation of the act had not thus far been obtained.'. . . . . .Thus far the investigation bears out the numerous complaints from European buyers, that there was something wrong with the markets on this continent. The violent fluctuations injured alike the actual sellers and buyers of wheat, and demoralized the markets to an unprecedented extent. How far, under competitive conditions, the legitimate trade can be protected against manipulations which produce such ruinous fluctuations is not an easy question to answer; it is the hope of the United States Department of Agriculture that the investigation may help to the discovery of a method of giving greater stability to wheat prices."

Silk Congress Planned

The French Federation of Silk Industries is organizing a European silk congress which will meet in Paris during the middle of June and will include delegates from England, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and Czecho-Slovakia who will represent the interests of silk worm producers, natural and artificial silk manufacturers and also allied industries such as the dye industry. The object of this congress, according to advices received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York, is to reach an understanding on matters of common interest, and the program of the congress, as established at the present time, includes the discussion of international relations, the establishment of a uniform tariff denomination, the regulation of importation and exportation of samples and various matters relating to the improvement in manufacture of silk and artificial silk thread, also the advisability of choosing a universal designation for artificial silk.

World Wheat Crop and the Department

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal of June 3 says: "Perhaps our Department of Agriculture has not heard about it but it is thoroughly discredited in the markets of the world. Senator Shipstead has discovered this startling fact. His proof is that the world wheat crop of 1924 is above the normal world requirements for consumption.

He quotes the Broomhall estimate for the year showing surplus of exporting countries at 824,000,000 bushels and requirements of importing countries 784,000,000 bushels. Thus he says: 'The collapse of a fictitious and artificially inflated bill market brings with it a world wide advertisement that our Government officials are discounted and discredited in the markets of the world.' Paraphrasing a saying of Lord Beaconsfield, 'It is easier to be ignorant than accurate,' the difference between what Broomhall estimates the importing countries will require and what the exporting countries have to sell would be only 40,000,000 bushels. As the importing world takes from other countries from 65,000,000 to 70,000,000 bushels of wheat a month, at the end of the season there would be only two weeks' supply standing between the importing world and the danger of crop disaster. This year's price, however, depended still more upon the distribution of the wheat crop of the world. It was so distributed that between the summer of 1924 and January, 1925, the United States was practically the only large shipper of surplus wheat. At the same time Europe, which buys wheat, had a crop far smaller than usual and a serious shortage of rye. This gave the United States the position of a monoply holder, and the world paid us our price. Between the first of July and the end of January this country shipped 200,000,000 bushels of wheat or practically double what it did the year before. Perhaps Senator Shipstead did not know these facts, --or, more likely, didn't understand them. Shipstead says that in accord with the law of supply and demand wheat should be more valuable in the spring, but instead it is then at its lowest ebb. The Senator correctly quotes the rule but ignores the facts. During the autumn and early winter of 1924-25 the United States was nearly the whole source of supply of export wheat as, after the close of navigation on the lakes, Canada could ship but very little, and we took advantage of the situation. After the first of January the Southern Hemisphere came on the market with its new crop, of which the exportable surplus was as large as that of the United States. To take advantage of the high prices it hurried its wheat to market. The Broomhall figures of the visible supply in the United Kingdom and afloat for the week ended January 3 was only 55,500,000 bushels. Immediately after the Southern Hemisphere began shipping in quantity this supply increased every week until March 7 when it was 100,700,000 bushels. Here is the reason for wheat being cheaper in the spring when the supply is increased. On the simple facts is it the Department of Agriculture that is 'discredited'"?

Section 3

Department of Agriculture 1

J. Horace McFarland, writing on "The Effect of Plant Quarantine," in The American Florist for May 27, says: "..... What is needed now? First and foremost, just the impartial investigation this committee (Committee on Horticultural Quarantine) has demanded of Secretary Jardine. Second, a new point of view to stimulate rather than restrain plant advance through private educational plant importation. Third, the abandonment of the

absurd red tape methods by which importations are made difficult, are followed in a manner not at all contemplated in law, and the autocracy of the Federal Horticultural Board strengthened. Then this narcissus bulb embargo ought to be absolutely abandoned. The recently issued circular of the Federal Horticultural Board entitled 'All Foreign Bulbs Not to Be Excluded' makes statements which, while for the most part are technically accurate, give an impression which is far from the truth, and the special pleading of the F. H. B. in support of an American bulb industry that does not exist is just another proof of its lack of knowledge of actual conditions..... Those who really believe, as this committee does, that the Act of August 20, 1912, is a good act, that there ought to be thoroughly sane and reasonable protection against the admission of new insects and diseases but that to build up a series of embargoes under the guise of pest protection is wrong, ought now to insist, by many communications to Secretary Jardine directly, that the quarantine situation needs impartial and broad-minded investigation. If this does not occur and if the present autocracy is permitted to increase in its efficacy, the time is not far distant when it will become State-wide as well as Nation-wide and when, as is already the case, the shipment of any plant products between States as well as between nations will be attended with so much difficulty that it will be abandoned. What this means to the horticultural trades can easily be imagined. In fact, it is seen now that the Federal Horticultural Board itself fears its outcome. It has built up a Frankenstein monster which is bothering its creator. Now is the time to kick!"

Department of Agriculture 2

Dr. Charles L. Marlatt, Chairman of the Federal Horticultural Board, is the author of a comprehensive review of the operations of the board, and answers many of the criticisms directed toward its regulations, in The Atlantic Monthly for June. He says in part: "The need for the enforcement of measures to protect the United States from new plant-pests is generally admitted; but when such measures come to be applied, irrespective of their scope or character, --radical or otherwise,--there is bound to be criticism and objection from at least a certain percentage of the persons unfavorably affected. Such criticism has been especially active in relation to Plant Quarantine No. 37 by persons who would like to see it either abolished or so amended that in large measure the old-time free importation of foreign nursery-stock and other plants might be resumed. In general this criticism has been characterized by a failure to appreciate that such freedom of entry of plants must necessarily bring a return of all the old risks of entry of pests.... Quarantine 37 has but one purpose, namely, to reduce to the utmost the risk of introducing dangerous plant-pests with plant-importations. This purpose is the basis of all the regulations restricting entry of foreign plants. Quarantine 37 has no tariff object whatsoever. It was not devised to protect plant-growers from foreign competition. The absence of any thought of such protection, on the part of either of this Department, of State officials, or of others advocating the quarantine, is indicated by the fact that the first and strongest

wave of opposition to it was from commercial plant-propagators,--nurserymen and florists,--interests which are now almost equally unanimous in its support. ThatPlant Quarantine 37 is in no true sense an embargo should be apparent from any unbiased examination of the continuing provisions under it for the entry of any necessary plants. Perhaps the most reasonable criticism of the Quarantine is embodied in the belief that it should be possible adequately to exclude such crop hazards as insect pests and plant diseases by provision for inspection and certification of plants by competent experts in the country of origin. In point of fact, such means of safeguarding entry was the first thought of the department following the promulgation of the Plant Quarantine Act of 1912, and as rapidly as possible the principal countries--some thirty-two eventually--concerned in any important way in the exportation of plants to the United States were induced to provide by legislation for such inspection and certification. A practical test of this method was continued for the first seven years of the enforcement of the Plant Quarantine Act, during which period unlimited importation of plants was permitted and the effort was made to prevent the entry of new pests by relying as safeguards on foreign inspection and certification and such additional reinspection at destination in this country as could be carried out by State inspectors--and such State cooperation was specifically provided for in the Act..... During this period of seven years no less than 148 different kinds of injurious insects were collected on nursery stock imported from Holland, and 245 different kinds of insects on similar stock from France. Some of these were detected in over one thousand different shipments of plants and many of them were detected hundreds of times..... There was also noted a very large variation in the yearly efficiency of this foreign inspection service.... Not only was the foreign inspection totally inadequate, but it developed also that the reinspection at destination in this country could by no means be depended upon to complete the safeguards against entry of pests..... The inadequacy of the inspection and certification method of safeguarding the entry of foreign plants was plainly indicated in this seven-year trial, and the conclusion was forced that the only possible means of effectively lessening the introduction of new plant-enemies is in a policy of exclusion of all plants not absolutely essential to the horticultural and forestry needs of the United States. Carrying out this policy, Quarantine 37 restricts the entry of most nursery stock and other ornamentals to certain purposes which are believed to be necessary to the development of American horticulture....."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	June 3,	June 2,	June 3, 1924.
	20 Industrials	130.41	130.42	91.23
	20 R. R. stocks	98.80	98.81	82.58

(Wall St. Jour., June 4.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 56 Section 1 June 5, 1925.

COTTON REPORT

An editorial entitled "Thoughts on the Cotton Report," in The Wall Street Journal for June 4, says: "It is encouraging that the Department of Agriculture handed the country a cotton condition report 11 points better than that of a year ago. The condition as of May 25 was estimated at 76.6. A year ago it was 65.5 and in the past ten years the average has been 72. In appreciation of this unusual report the market sold off from $1.50 to $2.50 a bale. This would seem like a good time for spinners to accumulate cotton. Taking the report by States it appears that, with the exceptions of North Carolina and Texas, the crop everywhere has got off with a brilliant start. Even in the two States below their ten year average the variance is only 2 points, while in many other large producers the condition runs from 10 to 14 points above the average. In these circumstances there is no denying the fact that cotton has started well..... Drought in Texas and weevil infestation are two factors which man can not control. Even with the best of cultivation the fate of the crop must, in great measure, rest upon them. There is, of course, the possibility that all will go well; there is an equal chance that present prospects will not be realized. The present, therefore, seems a reasonably good time for consumers of cotton to provide for at least a portion of their future needs."

ITALY ADOPTS RUSSIAN TRADE TREATY

A Rome dispatch to the press of June 4 states that the Chamber of Deputies June 3 discussed and adopted the commercial treaty between Italy and Russia. The vote was 261 to 4.

CHINESE FRUIT CULTURIST DIES

A Deland, Fla., dispatch to the press to-day states that Lue Gin Gong, originator of two of the best known varieties of grapefruit and oranges in Florida and California, died last night at the age of 70. He came to this country from China at the age of 12 and was adopted and educated by an American woman. He received a gold medal from the United States Government in recognition of his work with oranges. It is said he saved the industry millions of dollars by his perfection of an orange tree on which fruit would remain until far beyond maturity. The report states that among the fruits and vegetables developed by him are the cherry, currant, perfume grapefruit, early sweet apple of Massachusetts, a peach which grows under glass and bears in November, a firm variety of tomatoes and the three-leaf orange, which bears as far north as Connecticut.

Section 2

Agricultural Research

A recent issue of the St. Louis Live Stock Reporter says: "One of the leading western farm journals warns of the growing tendency to favor extension work at the State agricultural colleges at the expense of the experiment stations. The position appears to us to be well taken. No one familiar with the situation belittles the accomplishments of the extension departments of the higher institutions of learning. University extension has come into its own. On the other hand it is folly to send out a man to perform certain work and at the same time withhold the materials or tools necessary for its accomplishment. It is shown that in one Western State extension department of the college of agriculture has an appropriation of $3 for every $2 given experimental research at the same institution. In the absence of fuller data or work actually done, we do not advocate the curtailment of the extension funds, but it will seem that the research or experimental work should be as well supplied with money as the extension department, if not more so. At the recent St. Louis conference, Secretary of Agriculture Jardine dwelt upon the importance of the research work in agriculture. He showed that the steady increase in population and the enhancement in land values necessitated the development of new methods of crop production in order to hold down overhead and at the same time increase the output of foodstuffs. We recently received a rather 'blue' letter from the head of the livestock department of a certain western university in which he deplored the fact that he would be unable to authorize certain cattle feeding experiments this year through lack of funds. Livestock producers are face to face with hard facts in the way of prospects of future topheavy overhead and the necessity of perhaps operating on smaller margins over first cost. Research work by the experiment stations calculated to evolve feeding methods that will enable the meat animal producer to operate profitably, pay the western ranchman a 'living price' for feeders and be able to dispose of the fattened animal at a figure that will permit the city wage earner to eat meat freely, will be a national blessing. This is a tremendous field for achievement open to our State and Federal experiment stations."

British Land Policy

An editorial in Country Life (London) for May 23 says: "Last year, unless things go from bad to worse, will be remembered as the lowest point reached in agricultural depression since the beginning of the century. It has, however, resulted in the production of a number of plans for the relief of the country, of which the latest was handed last week to the Minister of Agriculture by the Surveyors' Institute. No better foundation could be found for the long-promised national policy. The problem faced by the report is two-fold, First, how to maintain the acreage of arable land and a sufficient supply of labor. And secondly, how to stimulate the economic production of food. The report concentrates on the business aspect of the industry, and stresses the truth that, while a minimum wage may be advantageous to the individual, it results in the reduction of the number of men employed unless conditions are secured which will make it reasonably

remunerative, taking one year with another, to keep under plough all lands suitable for arable. The report at once rules out the possibility of a protective duty on foodstuffs, and accordingly concentrates on internal methods. These it summarizes under three heads: A reduction in the cost of production; greater return per unit of expenditure; and a diminution in losses from disease and pests. This last is not dealt with in the report, as belonging in the province of agricultural research. The supreme obstacle to a reduction of costs is taken by the report to be, as we showed recently when commenting on Sir Howard Frank's letter to the Times, the unjust basis of assessment for death duties. It urges that agricultural properties should be assessed on the basis of the net income derived from the estate as a whole, the cost of realization being taken into consideration..... The report then attacks rates. There has been a tendency of late years, it justly remarks, to impose the cost of national services on local funds, and suggests that, in future, the various services should be divided into three classes: wholly national--to be borne by the Exchequer; semi-national and semi-local, to be settled proportionately; amd local, which may continue to be paid out of rates, with a due differentiation in favor of agricultural land. This last proviso is important, owing to the present system of assessment for rates by acreage, which throws an intolerable burden on the farmer, while his business neighbor, a man of equal income, but owning perhaps only one acre, contributes a trifling fraction of the farmer's payment. The most serious allegations made by the report, and among the most important, are in connection with railway rates. It remarks that serious grounds exist for the opinion that preferential treatment is given by railway companies to competing foreign produce, both as to facilities and rates. Goods, for instance, are frequently loaded and unloaded by agents of the consignor or consignee, and at their expense, without their receiving any reduction in rates of transport. Such matters could be watched over by a special standing committee, which the report suggests should be set up..... The remainder of the report is taken up with the questions of drainage and the provision of capital for improvements...."

Corn in Idaho

An editorial in The Idaho Farmer for May 21 says: "The development of the corn growing industry in Idaho is one of the State's most interesting projects. We have long had a tendency in the West to look upon the Middle West as the only corn growing area of the country worth consideration. True, that section will for many years and probably always be the great corn belt of America, but part of Idaho is showing dependable indications of becoming a western corn belt of no mean proportions.... There are areas of Idaho that can never hope to produce this great crop successfully. Varieties may be produced that will yield reasonably well in short seasons of comparatively cool weather, but corn will cease to be corn as we know it if the adaptation is carried to such extreme as to enable its production in frosty climes. But much of Idaho is ideally adapted to corn production--little late spring or early fall frost, dependably warm summer months, fertile soil, plenty of moisture."

Florida Products

The Florida Times-Union for June 1 says: "Two of Florida's principal crops, oranges and celery, have been short this year, through no fault of the growers, but because of unusual conditions last fall, but the superior quality of the products and prompt marketing have made it possible for the majority of growers and handlers to make a good profit. The excellent facilities offered by the railroads greatly aided the growers and truckers, and the facts are appreciated. The spring is finding Florida products going forward rapidly, and the shortage on some crops will be made up in volume on others. 'The perishable season bids fair to surpass all previous seasons, especially in shipments to New York harbor,' the Journal of Commerce says. Last year many new records were established, but during the first four months of 1925, the increase over last season has been marked, in one commodity amounting to over one hundred per cent."

Research and Experimental Work in Canada

An editorial in Canadian Farmer for May 30 says: "'Canada's agriculture urgently needs research and experimental work,' writes Mr. E. S. Archibald, Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms System. The great agricultural developments in Canada during the past 30 years, the vast areas of land newly settled, our huge exports, and the much improved living conditions in the rural communities, are all pointed to as deserving of the pride of all Canadians. In spite of these great evidences of progress in a comparatively short time, 'Canada is yet in her infancy, a fact few of us realize.' The solution of problems of production are necessary to assist in overcoming our present economic problems, for Canada's prosperity depends largely on agriculture..... That this need is realized by officials in authority in the realm of agriculture, both in Canada and the United States, is shown by the united action taken in the effort to wage war on the rust of wheat, which as year by year goes by, causes such tremendous losses in the wheat growing sections of both countries..... Last year, it will be recalled, a number of scientists met in Winnipeg with representatives from the Departments of Agriculture of both countries and organized a plan of campaign, which is now to be launched on both sides of the boundary line. The plant pathologists will endeavor to find a method of fighting the rust where and when it occurs. Wheat specialists met a short time ago in Winnipeg and divided among themselves the task of finding, or breeding, a rust resistant type or variety of wheat. The cooperative effort thus organized against a universal crop enemy is but an example of the duties imposed upon the experimentalists and research workers. The very nature of their work demands time, thought and repeated trial. Results come slow, as they do in all scientific and experimental work. The giving of these results to the public is one of the last phases of such endeavor, and it is well it is so, for indefinite results are of little, if any, value. To recount the gifts to practical agriculture from science is not our purpose, but the industry has been greatly benefited in numerous ways, and in this appeal of Mr. Archibald's we can but hope that the need will be recognized and the scientist enabled to go forward to greater triumphs in the interests of agriculture--and of world commerce."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 4: South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes mostly 25¢ to 75¢ lower at $5 to $6 per slat barrel to jobbers in leading cities; $4.75 to $5.00 f. o. b. First reports quoted Virginia Cobblers at $5 in a few eastern markets. Georgia Uneeda peaches 75¢ to $1.00 lower at $3 to $4 per six-basket carrier in the East, selling elsewhere at $2.25 to $3.25. Cantaloupes ranged $1 to $3 lower. Imperial Valley, California Salmon Tints closed at $6 to $8 per standard crate of 45 melons in leading markets with Mexican stock ranging mostly $5 to $6.50. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 26 to 30 pound average, slightly weaker at 75¢ to $1.00 unit basis in eastern markets, firm at $450 to $675 bulk per car f. o. b. Leesburg section.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.40 for the top and $12 to $12.30 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.50; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.25 to $11; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.50; yearlings $11 to $13.50; fat ewes $4.50 to $7.50.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted June 4: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.65 1/2 to $1.82 1/2. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.94 to $1.97; Kansas City $1.72 to $1.80. No. 3 red winter Chicago $1.81 1/2. No. 1 hard winter St. Louis $1.72; No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.69; Kansas City $1.65 to $1.73. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.06 to $1.07 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.12; Minneapolis $1.08 1/4 to $1.11 1/4. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 to $1.18 1/2; St. Louis $1.16 1/2 to $1.17 1/2; Kansas City $1.11 to $1.12. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.14 3/4 to $1.15 1/4; Minneapolis $1.12 1/4 to $1.13 1/4. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.15 to $1.16; Kansas City $1.09 to $1.10; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.13 1/2 to $1.14. No. 3 white oats Chicago 48 to 49¢; Minneapolis 45 1/2 to 46¢; St. Louis 50 to 50 1/2¢; Kansas City 50¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 52 points, closing at 24.39¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 47 points closing at 23.56¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 4,	June 3,	June 4,1924.
20 Industrials	128.89	130.41	90.72
20 R. R. stocks	98.41	98.80	82.78

(Wall St. Jour., June 5.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 57 Section 1 June 6, 1925.

THE COTTON REPORTS DISCUSSED A dispatch from Vienna to the New York Times to-day says: "The frequency with which the American Government issues cotton reports tends greatly to disturb the market, in the opinion of the International Cotton Congress, meeting in Vienna. A resolution to this effect has been adopted by the congress. Speakers pointed out that immediately before and after reports are issued it is practically impossible to do business because of unrest, first because of anxiety over what the report will contain, and secondly, as to its possible effect on the market. One report each month is advocated in place of two reports, although the delegates agreed that the American Government did everything possible to prevent leakage in advance of publication. Dr. W. A. Schoenfeld, Dr. Taylor of the American Department of Agriculture and J. T. Orr, vice president of the American Cotton Growers' Exchange, were among the speakers.".

BANKERS AND ADMINISTRATION ECONOMY Coolidge economy, instead of being responsible for slackened business, has brought a sound element into the times saving the Nation from "the danger of a real depression," it was declared at Swampscott, Mass., last night by William E. Knox, president of the American Bankers Association, in an address before the New England Bankers Association. Business men, he said, who blame the public's economical meed for unsatisfactory conditions in their enterprises are "hiding behind a sham excuse." Mr. Knox said in part: "We have witnessed an amazing resurrection in recent weeks of one of the greatest and most baseless fallacies of economic history. Economic fallacies are peculiarly insistent in their recurrence. A number stand out particularly prominently. For instance, one that has been often downed by the demonstration of unfortunate public experience, only to rise again and again, is the great greenback fake -- the notion that a Government stamp on a piece of paper can make it just as good money as gold or credit money secured by gold. The whole world is now turning away from the last, great bitter demonstration that fiat money will not work -- but doubtless we will always have with us demagogues ready to rise and fool the people into believing that it will work if that particular demagogue's plan is followed. Another great economic fallacy, that yet returns at times to plague us, harks back to the time when competition was considered a cut-throat game, a destructive business element. But finally the error of this view became understood and we now know that healthy competition is the life of trade. Even so, we will see efforts of short-sighted business men to stifle competition. As a matter of fact business to-day is good. There is no boom, but business is normally good and profitable where it is conducted efficiently and in keeping with public requirements for goods. There are indications that the present relatively moderate pace at which business is going reflects a great change for the good that has come over business in this country. Economic efficiency has been carried to an extent that gives ground for hope that hereafter we will have less marked contrasts in the business cycle -- less violent ups and downs...". (Press, June 6.)

Section 2

Germany's Economic Situation

The new Germany, as the unknown factor in the world's economic problem, was considered from various viewpoints by American business men attending the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The discussion disclosed a conviction that it will play an important part in the economic development of the future, but there was a well-defined opinion that it will be less formidable as a world trade competitor than has been generally supposed. This view was expressed by George E. Anderson, former Consul General, who said: "Most German industries have secured splendid new equipment as a result of building done during the decline and fall of the mark. On the other hand wages in Germany are far higher than before the war, not only in money paid but in working conditions exacted and wages are likely to go higher. Then, too, German raw material costs will be much higher. Much of the advantage in raw materials formerly possessed by Germany is now possessed by some one else. In addition to all this and overshadowing all is the matter of taxes. It may be uncertain what Germany is to pay under the Dawes plan but it is certain to be all that the country can bear and whatever it is must be raised in the way of taxes. I must confess that to me the prospect of German competition abroad when these payments commence to be exacted is not so much danger of a flood of German goods sent abroad in payment of reparations as it is a question of whether or not Germany can successfully compete in foreign markets while burdened with such taxes." (To-day's Business, June.)

Hog Pooling in Indiana

Sioux City Live Stock Record for June 2 says: "The very latest in a cooperative way is an Indiana product. This latest is a proposition to form a hog pooling concern for the purpose of funneling hogs out to the trade on call. To start with, it proposes an organization, well manned and salaried it is presumed..... This Indiana plan reads like a resurrection of the plan of a few years ago, conceived and set in motion by a young and ardent West Virginian for the purpose of regulating the flow of range cattle into market. His plan contemplated having all of the range cattle assembled in pens close to the railroads and funneling them out on call of the packers. He had failed to get his West Virginia idea to dovetail with the size of the country. Some real range men found what his project was, and they met him on the border of the range country with an admonition that if he was not ready to join the angels he had best retreat while the roads were open and the retreating good. There are no doubt some good and sincere men who think well of this Indiana project. It also reads as though the promoters do not know much about the hog business nor competition in the trade. It talks about broadening competition and stabilizing prices--does this in face of the fact that since the coming in of market supervision by the Government the number of packers and competitive buyers in the country has increased from the 'big five,' to something over 1,300. We are not

ready to charge that the wide and wild fluctuations that have prevailed in the hog market of late are due to Government regulation and supervision. But there is one thing certain, to-wit: The markets never saw such fluctuations before this reign of supervision and regulation--and it has been particularly noticed that these stabilizing associations that have attached themselves to the American Farm Bureau Federation have failed to stabilize, although there is no information that the main stabilizers failed to get theirs out of the exchequer of the stabilizing associations."

Hoover on Trade Associations

Discussing June 4 the decision of the Supreme Court dealing with the activities of trade associations in collecting and making public statistics, Secretary Hoover declared that it was not the policy of the administration, or of the Department of Commerce, to promote consolidation of business into big units. "In the competitive industries," Mr. Hoover said, "the whole work of this department, in assistance to foreign trade, in cooperation to establish standards and grades of products, in scientific and economic investigation, publication of statistics &c., is for the purpose of giving the small unit the same advantages which are already possessed by big business. "I am advised that the recent Supreme Court decision in the Trade Association cases clarified one large point, that is, the reporting of volume of production, stocks, consumption and the movement of prices for both farmers and business men is in the interest of competition and sound organization....."

Motor Transportation

An editorial in The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette for May 31 says: "Secretary of Agriculture Jardine told the Midwest transport conference in Chicago, the other day, that the railroads need not fear the motor trucks. 'We can help the motor vehicle find its place by wise restraint of its more enthusiastic proponents,' he said, 'and by refraining from regulation which may have a crippling effect.' If that means what it seems to mean it doesn't mean a great deal. As a matter of fact the railroads do not fear the motor trucks. When the motor trucks become a competitive factor of which the railroads need have fear the railroads will do what some of the railroads are doing already. They will take possession of that transport. The wedge has already begun to go in and it will keep going in. The public is interested in all this, as we have pointed out many times heretofore. The public's interest in lower rates and greater efficiency of transportation is vital and constant. But there is an interest which now promises to supersede that. It concerns the use of the highways, the cost of the highways, the maintenance of the highways. A few days ago the Indiana Public Service corporation, operating an extensive system of interurban railroads in northern Indiana, and having its greatest center in Fort Wayne, announced its purpose to establish several lines of motor buses for the handling of passenger traffic. This is undeniably a drive to meet a hurtful competition as well as to gain a new field of business. While that corporation's plans are limited enough to appear for the present experimental, the plans are comprehensive enough to forecast what will follow if the experiment succeeds....."

Production Regulation

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for May 23 says: ".....About the only logical method of regulating production to needs is to greatly increase the system by which the statistics relating to intentions to plant are collected. If, (and that is a big word), after the publication of the intention-to-plant figures it is found that the proposed acreage is beyond the probable needs, farmers would change their plans by reducing the crop acreage to meet the needs, over-production could, in a measure, be avoided. But if they go ahead and over produce in the face of such knowledge they can not be pitied for the distress which follows glutted markets. No law nor system of business can obviate the necessity for exercising common sense in any kind of business and there is no line in which it is more necessary than agriculture. Farmers need to study more the economics of their business. They need to know something of what all the farmers in the country are doing and what the conditions are, and not think it sufficient to know their own acres and farm them well. Modern transporation methods make all farmers akin, and every farmer becomes at once the competitor of and cooperator with every other farmer. Above all things, let us study to prevent great scarcities as well as great surpluses."

Wheat Situation

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 5 says: "On June 8 the Department of Agriculture will publish its report of the condition of the principal grain crops, with the exception of corn. The domestic and world wheat situation makes this an unusually important report. At the beginning of our new crop year--July 1--there will be a very small surplus of wheat in the world and the crop of the United States will be the main dependence of importers until next autumn and winter. Judging from private reports it is a fair inference that our crop will be 200,000,000 bushels less than that harvested a year ago. Compared with 1924 the wheat crop of the United States does not look good. Winter wheat promises considerably less than a month ago. In the past month there has been drought in some sections of the winter belt which will seriously affect production. Evidently the market has not taken seriously the freeze of May 25, but experience teaches that in such a case the wheat heads will not fill out well. However much this fact may be overlooked now, the threshing returns in July and August will make it painfully apparent. This will be the first report of the season on spring wheat. There has been a considerable increase in acreage, making a total above 20,000,000 acres, compared with the unrevised estimate of 17,700,000 harvested last year. The department, of course, will report whatever area it finds in spring wheat at this time, but the increase will be more apparent than real. The Pacific Northwest lost much winter wheat and in that territory there will be probably 1,500,000 acres seeded to spring wheat to take the place of winter wheat plowed up..... For the wheat crop on June 1 the outlook is for a production of but a little more than our domestic needs. Should any trouble develop in the Northwest this summer there might well be no wheat for export this season, and possibly we shall see the folly of cutting into our reserve so deeply

as we have done this season for export. This is the situation about as it looks now, and better than average weather will be necessary to improve it."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 5: South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes mostly 50¢ to $1.00 lower selling at $4.75 to $6.00 per slat barrel to jobbers in leading markets. Georgia Uneeda peaches sold 25 to 50¢ lower in the Middle West at $2.25 to $2.75 per six-basket carrier, while in eastern markets dealers got $3 to $3.50. Cantaloupe prices $1 to $2 lower than a week ago. Imperial Valley California Salmon Tints, $6 to $8 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $2 to $2.10 f. o. b. El Centro Watermelons tend upward. F. o. b. Sales of Tom Watsons, 24-30 pound average ranged $400 to $675 bulk per car in the Leesburg section of Florida.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.40 for the top and $12 to $12.20 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.40; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.25 to $11; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.50; yearlings $11 to $13.50; fat ewes $4.25 to $7.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Boston 44¢.

Grain prices quoted June 5: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.68 1/2 to $1.86 1/2. No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.93 1/2; St. Louis $2 to $2.03; Kansas City $1.74 to $1.80. No. 1 hard winter St. Louis $1.73 1/2; No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.72 1/2 to $1.75 1/2; Kansas City $1.65 to $1.80. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.14 1/2 to $1.15 1/2; Minneapolis $1.07 3/4 to $1.10 3/4. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.18 1/2 to $1.19 3/4; St. Louis $1.17 1/2 to $1.18; Kansas City $1.13. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.17 1/2 to $1.18 1/2; Minneapolis $1.11 3/4 to $1.12 3/4; No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.16 to $1.16 1/2; Kansas City $1.11; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.15 1/2; No. 3 white oats Chicago 48 to 50 3/4¢; Minneapolis 46 7/8 to 47 3/8¢; St. Louis 51 to 51 1/2¢; Kansas City 51¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 32 points, closing at 24.71¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advances 35 points, closing at 23.91¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 5,	June 4,	June 5,1924.
20 Industrials	128.98	128.89	90.41
20 R. R. stocks	98.41	98.41	83.22

(Wall St. Jour., June 6.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 58 Section 1 June 8, 1925.

WILEY ASKS PURE FOOD LAW INVESTIGATION An Associated Press dispatch to-day states that Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, former chief of the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, has asked President Coolidge to order an investigation, charging that the Pure Food and Drug act has become paralyzed by orders issued at the instance of the department. Doctor Wiley asserts there has been a conspiracy on the part of food adulterators to shackle the law, which he said now is nothing more than a shell of the legislation passed by Congress in 1906. Executive orders which Doctor Wiley contended had nullified sections of the law were, in his opinion, unauthorized and had legalized acts which the law itself prohibited.

COTTON BUSINESS AT CONFERENCE A Vienna dispatch to the press of June 8 states that the International Cotton Congress at its concluding session at Vienna June 6 unanimously adopted a resolution in favor of a large increase in cotton growing as the only means of meeting the public demand. It was declared that statistical records for the world warrant an extension of growing, and the world needs cotton goods at much lower prices than those prevailing. Further resolutions were to the effect that the industry must be able to obtain raw materials on a cheaper basis. The Governments of all countries in which cotton can be grown advantageously were called upon to stimulate production by creating efficient transport facilities and by construction of such promising irrigation and drainage works as are now being undertaken in the Sudan and India.

FRUIT FLY IN SPAIN A Madrid dispatch to the press of June 7 states that fumigation experiments are being conducted in the orange and olive groves of the Province of Valencia by the entomologist, Frank Todd. The results accomplished will greatly benefit Spanish fruits, but it is thought they are not sufficient to contend with the dreaded Spanish fruit fly, which is the cause of the American embargo on Spanish grapes.

AUTOMOBILES AND THEIR UPKEEP Eight billion dollars is being spent annually by Americans in the purchase and maintenance of automobiles, according to a report just completed by the American committee on highway transport, of the United States Chamber of Commerce. Two billion dollars go for new cars and the remainder for accessories, gasoline, tires, repairs and garage items. The latest statistics on the number of passenger cars and trucks in use, according to the committee, show a total of 17,500,000, or one for every seven inhabitants. The report of this committee is to be submitted to the third biennial conference of the International Chamber of Commerce, which is to open at Brussels on June 21. (Press, June 8.)

Section 2

Bookkeeping by Farmers

Through keeping farm accounts farmers in Woodford County, Ill., have achieved a saving or earning of $650 per year, according to a study made by the Farm Management Department of the University of Illinois. The results of the study are contained in a report issued by the university, which was prepared by Professors Case and Mosher, in charge of farm organization and management work. The work was started in Woodford County during the Spring of 1916, when about sixty farmers started keeping farm accounts in the books sent out by the university. Many accounts have been started and closed since that time, but nineteen of the original men who started in 1916 have continued their records during the entire period, as a result of which it was possible to obtain some very complete and definite data. The farmers were assisted by the county farm adviser in keeping their records. There were as wide differences in the results of the nineteen farmers as are to be found among any other group of farmers, it is pointed out. At the end of the first year of record keeping it was found that the average rate of interest earned on the capital invested was 7.09 per cent for the nineteen, compared with 6.92 per cent for twenty-nine others who started out at the same time but dropped out at the end of the year, or a difference of only 17 per cent. In the last year recorded these same nineteen farmers realized a return of 4.72 per cent, compared with 3.39 per cent gained by forty-five other farmers who had kept records for only a year, or an advantage of 1.33 per cent. After deducting the 17 per cent, which may be said to represent the difference in the earning power of the nineteen farmers at the start, a profit of 1.16 per cent on the total capital remains as the result of improved farm practices adopted by these farmers on the strength of their past records. Since the average capital invested in these nineteen farms was $56,490, this additional net profit of 1.16 per cent amounts to $655.82, says the report. In studying these results it was found by the investigators that certain changes were made in the farm methods of the nineteen farmers, and that these changes were the factors which had the most to do with bringing about the increased returns. (Press, June 6.)

Farmer and Business Man

Elmer Murphy is the author of an article in Nation's Business for June, which says: ".....From the economic side it has been made plain that agriculture is a business no less than the making of shoes or ships or sealing wax. Secretary Jardine has said that the farmer himself is a business man 'with a greater capital investment than the average retail merchant.' There are, on the other hand, countless business men who own farms..... But such slender threads as these, uniting town and country, only accentuate the common illusion that the farmer and the business man stand at economic antipodes, and that the horny-handed son of the soil and the obese lord of the counting house are twain that can never meet. But they can meet. They actually did meet at the first regional agricultural conference, held under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of the

United States, at Kansas City, April 9 and 10. Technically this was a gathering of representatives of chambers of commerce in eight States -- Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas -- to consider methods by which their organizations are cooperating, or can cooperate, with agriculture. It was called, specifically, not to discuss farming from the point of view of the farmer but to discuss agriculture from the point of view of business. To the lay observer, who belongs to neither category, it turned out to be something more -- an effective demonstration of the possibilities of a coalition between town and country. The striking characteristic of the conference lay not only in what it did but in what it was. Of the seventy-two delegates, speaking for thirty-two chambers of commerce in the urban centers of a great portion of the central valley which constitutes the stronghold of American agriculture, many were organization secretaries and agricultural commissioners who deal at close range with the problems involved in the relationship between business and agriculture. There were in addition business men who were directly interested in farming, and 'dirt' farmers who were interested in business. Between them no line could be drawn. In its personnel and in the conclusions it reached, implied rather than expressed, the conference was an inpressive revelation of the fact, not merely that business and agriculture belong to the same economic category, but that the 'dirt' farmer, the retail merchant, the banker, speak of business one to another -- whether it be the business of tilling the soil, of marketing or of financing -- in a common language and not as the exponents of clashing interests."

Game Bird Protection

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 6 says: "The friends of the game bird who have been waging a five-year-long campaign for less game killing have almost given up the fight. For the failure they put the blame largely on the Federal Government, which they charge with having marked time for more than seven years on the killing privileges it established in 1918 on migratory game. The organization for permanent wild life protection admits its campaign is 90 per cent failure. In other words, the odds are 9 to 1 against the game bird. Out of 42 States whose legislatures convened this year, only two enacted important reforms for the protection of wild game. The Federal Government, it is charged, has not lifted a finger to reduce its exterminatory bag limits, and the indications are that it does not intend to reform them this year. Ever since 1912 the friends of the game bird have stood out for Federal control of migratory game. Last year the Secretary of Agriculture was petitioned to reduce the wasteful and exterminatory bag limits and open seasons on migratory birds. This appeal, it is asserted, found no sympathy in the Department of Agriculture. W. T. Hornaday, of Stamford, Conn., spokesman for the champions of the game bird, declares that, 'thoroughly believing that the case of the feathered game of America is now hopeless, our minds are prepared for the worst that can happen to it. As conditions stand to-day the odds against the survival of our game birds seem to be about 9 to 1, with the one chance fading away. When the game is all gone and there is no more hunting, we will say that the end of hunting

sport serves the game-killers quite right; but it will be unfair to the 105,000,000 people who do not shoot or trap game.' The picture Dr. Hornaday paints is a sad one, almost too sad to be entirely true. But granting he is 50 per cent right, it would seem the Federal Government, through the Department of Agriculture, should give some serious and active consideration to the cause of wild life in America."

Motor Transportation

An editorial in The Wichita Eagle for May 30 says: "Plainly the steam railways must do something radically reformatory in their internal operations for revenue. The gas-driven motor is cutting into their traffic tragically. Secretary Jardine blandly assures the railways that they can have the long hauls. This will wake no enthusiasm in railroad operators. The railroads have been making the long hauls for years at a minimum rate and charging the patrons of short hauls a maximum rate to make up the difference. The railroads can not operate solely on long haul revenues. Part of the solution for them is consolidation and to this they are working. But it is only a partial solution. Competition from gas-driven motors will be in the field for consolidation, just as it is now in the field, and it is only beginning its rivalry. The railroads must keep a share of their short hauls for revenue. They can do it by making competitive short haul rates. They will come to it all right. Reliance on Interstate Commerce Commission, the social consolation of distinguished fellow-club members in New York City and Chicago, the traditional assurances of a long practice in monopoly will not help managements much. The little town has withered under the warp of high local freight rates for years, most of them believing that there was no help for it. But help is coming down a paved road in the shape of a wagon that, banished fifty years ago, is returning fully equipped with celerity, and on hard-surfaced highways, with certainty."

Production Regulation

An editorial in Western Farmer for May 15 says: "During the past two or three years we have heard much said about reducing production: that the farmer should adjust his production to consumption needs. In the manufacturing business reducing production is not a new idea. As demand slackens, the manufacturer reduces his production, and why not? If he overproduces, he must sell at a loss. If he sells at a loss for any great length of time, he will become bankrupt and go out of business altogether. Therefore, is there any reason why the farmer should not follow the same business policy? Economic laws apply with equal force to the farmer as to the manufacturer. Should the farmer continue to produce his surplus which will be sold at a loss? Should there not be more definite steps taken to adjust production to the needs of consumption of the farm? There is much need of agricultural surveys, such surveys are now under way in many States. It is going to take considerable time for their completion but it is looking in the right direction. The more nearly we can adjust production to the actual needs, the more stable prices will be and the more permanent our farm population. While production can not be controlled as it can in the factory on account of certain weather conditions, it can be adjusted much better in the future than it has been in the past."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

For the week ended June 5: Chicago hog prices ranged from 20¢ lower to 15¢ higher for the week, closing at $12.40 for the top and $12 to $12.20 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers steady to 40¢ lower at $8.50 to $11.40; butcher cows and heifers 25¢ lower to 50¢ higher at $4 to $11.25; feeder steers steady at $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves 25 to 50¢ lower at $8.25 to $11; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.50; yearlings $11 to $13.50; *fat ewes 75¢ to $1 lower at $4.25 to $7.25. *No. comparisons made on lambs, and yearlings account of change in classification of "spring lambs" to "lambs" and "lambs" to "yearlings", effective June 1.

Potatoes closed weaker. South Carolina Irish Cobblers mostly 50¢ to $1 lower, selling at $4.75 to $6.00 per slat barrel to jobbers in leading markets. Georgia Uneeda peaches sold 25¢ to 50¢ lower in the Middle West at $2.25 to $2.75 per six-basket carrier, while in eastern markets dealers got $3 to $3.50. Cantaloupe prices $1 to $2 lower than a week ago. Imperial Valley California, Salmon Tints $6 to $8 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $2 to $2.10 f. o. b. El Centro, Watermelons tend upward. F. o. b. sales of Tom Watsons, 24-30 pound average ranged $400 to $675 bulk per car in the Leesburg section of Florida.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 88 points during the week, closing at 24.71¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 93 points, closing at 23.91¢.

Butter markets continued firm during the week ending June 5, with increasing demand for storage. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 43¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Boston 44¢.

Cheese markets during the week ending June 5 maintained a degree of firmness. Wholesale prices Wisconsin primary markets June 4: Cheddars 22 1/2¢; Single Daisies 22 3/4¢; Double Daisies 22 3/4¢; Leghorns 23¢; Square Prints 23 3/4¢

Hay markets slightly firmer on less favorable crop prospects. Quoted June 5: No. 1. timothy -- Boston $25; New York $25.50; Pittsburgh $20; Cincinnati $18; Chicago $22; St. Louis $23.50; Memphis $23.50. No. 1 alfalfa - Kansas City $16.50; Omaha $16.50; Memphis (new) $21. No. prairie Kansas City $10.25; Omaha $11.50; Chicago $15; St. Louis $15.50; Minneapolis $16.

Grain market irregular. Wheat futures about 2 to 5 cents higher than week ago on claims crop damage in spite of easier European markets. Cash wheat firm with more active milling demand although export business quiet. Corn futures working higher after early decline, closing about one cent lower than week ago. Oats futures one and one-half to two and one-half cents higher, independently strong on claims of decreased production. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 6,	June 5,	June 6, 1924
20 Industrials	128.85	128.98	89.18
20 R. R. stocks	98.60	98.41	82.58

(Wall St. Jour., June 8.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 59 Section 1 June 9, 1925.

ARKANSAS ROAD BOARD REBUKED

The press to-day states that an attempt by a road district in Arkansas to impose taxes upon owners for lands they had acquired from the Federal Government, for improvements made upon those lands while still the Government's property, was June 8 rebuked in a unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court. Serious embarrassment would result to the Government in selling its lands if the subsequent owners were to be so taxed, the Court declared in the opinion, rendered by Associate Justice Sanford. The Supreme Court thus reversed the Supreme Court of Arkansas and sent the case back "for further proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion." The Osceola and Little River Road Improvement District 1 of Mississippi County, Ark., brought suit in a Chancery Court of Arkansas against B. F. Lee and others to collect the assessment of taxes made against them. The Chancellor decreed that the lien for the assessments be foreclosed and the lands sold to pay them. The decree was affirmed by the Arkansas Supreme Court, but was brought to Washington on a writ of error.

MEAT BUSINESS

Declines of approximately twelve million dollars have occurred in the value and two hundred sixty million pounds in the quantity of the meat and lard exported during the first four months of the present year as compared with a year ago, according to an analysis of late official statistics issued June 8 by the Institute of American Meat Packers through its President, Oscar G. Mayer of Chicago. "This represented a decline of about 12 per cent in value and some 30 per cent in quantity," Mr. Mayer stated. "In other words, there has been a greater decline in the volume of meat exports than in the value. The cause is that virtually all of the meat exported is pork or pork products, and values have increased somewhat, in keeping with the higher prices which packers have had to pay for hogs -- prices which, so far this year, have averaged more than 60 per cent higher than a year ago, and some 40 per cent. higher than in 1913. Exports of lard have shown the greatest decline. During the first four months of 1924, 407,000,000 pounds, worth $52,000,000 were exported. This compares with 247,000,000 pounds, worth $42,000,000 during the first quarter of 1925. Exports of pork and pork products normally constitute some 10 per cent of our total production. Meat products, with an approximate worth of $250,000,000, stand second in value among American exports. Unmanufactured cotton, valued at $950,581,000 for the last year, is first on the list according to official figures, followed, after meat products, by exports of wheat ($237,114,000); automobiles and parts ($205,682,000); gasoline, naptha, and other light products ($167,735,000); leaf tobacco ($163,931,000), and refined copper ($138,298,000). The United Kingdom buys large quantities of American meat products and ordinarily is the largest foreign customer of the American meat industry. More than half a billion pounds of meat, lard, and oleo oil, worth approximately ninety million dollars, were sold last year in the United Kingdom. Germany buys more American lard than any other foreign buyer. Exports of lard to Germany last year exceeded three hundred million pounds, worth more than forty million dollars."

Section 2

Cooperation on Pacific Coast

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 8 says: "The great progress in farm cooperation announced from the Pacific Coast is not to be doubted. It represents notable success in a movement whose basis has until very recent years been considered questionable. There need be no hesitation in awarding to those who have fostered and developed this movement the due measure of credit which belongs to them. Still less should congratulation be withheld from those who have given their allegiance to the movement and are beginning to realize a large measure of tangible benefit from it. Such success as has been attained on the Pacific Coast may doubtless be achieved also in other parts of the country, and among other groups of producers. There is no reason why they should not accomplish on their own ground as much as their Western co-workers in agriculture..... Cooperation, moreover, could probably never have attained its present degree of success without aid of another but almost equally effective type. For several years past there has been an important process of development in connection with warehouse and storage legislation, elevator establishment, grain and produce grading and standardization, and a variety of other enactments which have gone far to perfect and facilitate the marketing process. All this has been admirable in its purpose and largely desirable in execution and effect. It, however, represents a kind of assistance and furtherance of business objects which has been paralleled perhaps in no other field..... For all these elements of improvement in the farm situation the community as a whole has, of course, had to foot the bill. Farm organizations have done a vast amount to advance the cost of food to the consumer and have been insistent in their demand for tariff protection. The fruit interests of California, and of the Pacific Coast generally afford a conspicuous example of the sort. It is wholly idle to think of them as merely 'avoiding waste' or 'eliminating the middleman,' for while they may have done something in both directions, their great object has confessedly been that of raising prices..... The more cooperation thrives, and the more it benefits the membership through its own efforts and on its own merits, the better. The more it calls for artificial subsidies and uses its power politically, rather than economically, the less it is likely to hold the regard of the rank and file of the public."

Florida Game Legislation

The Florida Times Union for June 6 says:

Florida has taken a step forward in the enactment of a law which will give better protection to the game and fish within her borders. The legislature has approved and the bill has been signed by Governor Martin which provides for the appointment of a State game commissioner, and indicates his duties as well as fixing details regarding the payment of licenses, and the control of hunting and fishing generally. The new statute differs radically from the old

law, which becomes inoperative at once, and very clearly indicates the plans of the proponents to conserve and increase the game and fresh water fish in Florida forests and waters. The bill was sponsored by the Florida division of the Izaak Walton League of America, and will be approved by good sportsmen everywhere..... Licenses will be required for both hunting and fishing in the State hereafter, but the fees are not heavy, and sportsmen, and even those engaged in fishing as a means of livelihood or an addition to the larder would not be inconvenienced by the provisions of the new law. The sale of game is absolutely prohibited in the State--at least game originating here....."

Federal Reserve Policy

Congressman McFadden's criticisms of the Federal Reserve System "are either based on individual presumptions regarding what Reserve Bank practice ought to be or they lack point altogether," according to E. E. Agger, associate professor of economics at Columbia University. Writing in the American Bankers' Association Journal, in answer to Mr. McFadden's assertion that it is time to "demobilize the Federal Reserve System" by repealing so-called "war amendments," he declares that from a credit point of view the war is not yet over. "We have almost half the world's visible supply of gold," Mr. Agger says, "our price level is more than 50 percent above the pre-war level. The basic element in the price level under a gold standard is the value of gold. The nations of Europe are trying to get back on a gold basis and it is to our interest to help them. This means that much of the gold that has come to us will have to be given back. That will be attended by sweeping changes in discount rates and in prices." Under such conditions, he states nothing should be done "to weaken the only agency that can adequately safeguard our interests, and any restriction of the efficiency of the Reserve System is unwise," as would be the result, as Prof. Agger sees it, of the McFadden proposals. (Press, June 8.)

French Bread and Grain Committee

The official Bread and Wheat Committee in France which was recently appointed to inquire into the rising cost of cereals, flour and bread has decided after a detailed examination of general conditions to recommend complete freedom of production and commerce in flour, and tariff protection strong enough to encourage the French farmers to grow wheat, thereby making the national production stable and sufficiently large to meet the needs of consumption. With a view to avoiding the excessive fluctuations in the price of wheat, this committee, according to advices received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its French information service, is also studying the possibility of organizing a system of regional store-houses where farmers throughout France could store their wheat after the harvest thereby obviating the necessity of making early sales.

Rubber

Growth of world rubber production and the advances in the cost of material produced therefrom are discussed in a recent issue of the Trade Record of The National City Bank of New York. This advance, says the Trade Record, is pronounced by very high authorities in the rubber world as due in part to a restriction in the quantity of rubber

which the British rubber-growing countries are permitted to export. The rubber of the world is grown chiefly in the British Colonies of the Malayan Peninsula, India, and Ceylon, also in the Dutch East Indies, Brazil, and certain other South American countries. The British Colonies, chiefly Malaya, India, and Ceylon, according to Harvey S. Firestone, a high authority in the United States, have been supplying about 85% of the rubber of the world, and recent legislation limiting the share of their output which they may export to one-half of their normal production has been followed by an advance in the prices which the world must pay for this article, of which the use has been so greatly increased since the advent of the automobile. Mr. Firestone, a large manufacturer, remarking on the advance in prices since the restriction of exportation from the British Colonies, is quoted as saying, "To-day crude rubber is 200% higher than before restriction was enacted." Sir Eric Geddes, chairman of another rubber tire company, which he describes as "the second largest producer in the world, the United States Rubber Company being first", is quoted as saying that prices of rubber have fluctuated from 17¢ to 61¢ in a few months and that America "should take steps to eliminate present conditions in the industry, or grow her own rubber."

That the demand of the world for India rubber has greatly increased since the advent of the automobile is evidenced by authoritative figures which show that the world rubber crop has advanced from 61,000 tons in 1905 to 124,000 in 1914, 390,000 in 1919, and an estimate of 421,000 in 1924. Quite naturally the United States, which is not a rubber-growing country but is the largest manufacturer and user of automobiles and a large exporter of tires, has greatly increased its imports of rubber, and our own official records show that the quantities of India rubber imported into the United States have advanced from 17 million pounds in 1880 to 34 millions in 1890, 49 millions in 1900, 101 millions in 1910, 692 millions in 1923, and 736 millions in 1924. Of this enormous importation of last year 472 million pounds came from the British East Indies, 133 millions from the Dutch East Indies, 29 millions from Brazil, and 3 1/2 millions from other South American countries, and from Great Britain, whose colonies are the chief rubber producers of the world, another 85 millions. The value of the rubber imports into the United States in 1924 is officially stated at $174,000,000.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Sioux City Live Stock Record for June 3 says: "Delegates returning from the meeting of the National Live Stock Exchange, in Chicago last week, report having met both Secretary of Agriculture Jardine, and Mr. Caine, the man recently appointed to head what is known as the Packer and Stockyards Administration of the Department of Agriculture. All are very much pleased with the apparent attitude of both Mr. Jardine and his assistant toward the livestock interests as a whole, and the markets in particular. It was discovered by the delegates that Mr. Caine is the Utah man who delivered an address in the Montana Stock Growers' convention, held at Dillon, in April, 1923, and in which he indicated himself to be a man of more than the narrow vision that has prompted some

of the things attempted in the livestock trade of the past six or seven years. And the talks of Sioux City delegates to Chicago with Mr. Caine strengthened this view in their expectancies for his administration of the Packer and Stockyards law."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 8: Northwestern sacked Round White potatoes closed 80 to 85¢ lower on the Chicago carlot market at 85¢ to $1 per 100 pounds. Virginia Cobblers, slat and stave barrels ruled $3.50 to $5.00. Peaches unsettled. Georgia Uneedas brought $2.50 to $3.50 per six-basket carrier in consuming centers. Early Rose commanded $4 to $5 in city markets; $2.75 to $3.50 f. o. b. Macon, Georgia. Delaware and Maryland various varieties of strawberries 20 to 30¢ quart basis in eastern cities. Imperial Valley, California Salmon Tint Cantaloupes ranged $1 to $3 lower at $4.50 to $6.50 per standard crate of 45 melons. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average held steady in the Leesburg section at $350 to $650 bulk per car f. o. b.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.40 for the top and $11.80 to $12.30 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.40; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25, fat lambs $13.50 to $15.75; yearlings $11 to $13.65 and fat ewes $4 to $7.

Grain prices quoted June 8: No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.89 1/2 to $1.91 1/4; St. Louis $2.01 to $2.03; Kansas City $1.75 to $1.82. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.68 to $1.77; St. Louis $1.72; Kansas City $1.63 to $1.77. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.06 1/2 to $1.08; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.12 to $1.13. No 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 to $1.16 1/2; Kansas City $1.10 to $1.11. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 1/2 to $1.15 1/2; No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.15 Kansas City $1.08 1/4; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.13 to $1.13 3/4. No. 3 white oats Chicago 50 1/4 to 52 3/4¢; St. Louis 53 to 54¢; Kansas City 54¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Philadelphia 44 1/4¢; Boston 44¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 4 points during the week, closing at 23.83¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 12 points, closing at 22.80¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 8,	June 6,	June 8, 1924.
20 Industrials	127.12	128.85	90.15
20 R. R. stocks	97.22	98.60	83.16

(Wall St. Jour., June 9.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CREDIT MEN

'More self-government and less government by law should be the aim of business and industry. This was emphasized yesterday by Secretary of Commerce Hoover in an address made at the thirteenth annual convention of the National Association of Credit Men, meeting in the Mayflower hotel in Washington..... "We are confronted with a daily demand for extension of government in order to cure some abuse or another," Secretary Hoover said. "But the greatest cure of abuse is in a new conception, and that is self-government outside of government."..... The extension of credit to good people, the refusing of credit to the unstable and incompetent and the imprisonment of the credit criminal were urged by Secretary Hoover as methods of improving the credit procedure in the United States. Stressing the enormous loss through operation of credit criminals, the Secretary said that he knew of "no worse waste than that which comes from commercial crime."..... Senator Glass denounced the legislative blocs that exist in Congress. A member, he said, is expected to vote for farm legislation, without even questioning the merit of that legislation. If he doesn't vote for it, he declared, he is denounced as an enemy of the farmer..... H. S. Yohe, of the Department of Agriculture, in an address in the afternoon before the bankers' group of the association, urged bankers to accept as security only warehouse receipts made out under the Federal warehouse act. Mr. Yohe has charge of the administration of the act.

A "mania for legislation" threatens to become the serious problem in American politics, Senator Fess, Ohio, declared..... "To-day we are told Congress has been derelict in its duty to the farmer," the speaker continued. "A commission after months of survey reported suggested relief. This proposal held mainly to the sound view of meeting an economic result by an economic remedy. This did not appeal to that portion of the country which believes in substituting a legal for an economic plan, and it was, therefore, rejected for the sake of the farmer. "What they want is a ready-made remedy. They resent the idea that the powerful Government is impotent to fix values. They assert that a bushel of wheat will be worth just what Uncle Sam might decree, no matter what the amount raised throughout the world..... This treatment of the economic proposal for farm relief discloses the dangerous trend in the legislation of the day." the Ohio Senator asserted. "It shows the vice of modern thinking. The public has been fed up with the belief that in Congress lies the remedy of all conceivable ills. Long ago the Government ceased to be an institution to be served, but rather an agency to be sought for favors." (Press, May 10.)

GRAIN SHIPMENTS

A Galveston dispatch to the press to-day states that an enormous increase of grain shipments through that port this season, including May, over the movement here in the corresponding period of the previous year is shown by reports to the Galveston Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade. Shipment of wheat in May was 570,470 bushels, an increase of 542,970.

Section 2

Cotton Forecasts

Providence (R.I.) Journal for June 4, in an editorial on "Are Cotton Forecasts Worth While?" concludes: ".....Whether these preliminary cotton reports do more harm than good is debatable. They promote speculation, though many of them are issued with no thought of aiding the speculative element. Probably the strongest reason for having a Government early report, however, is that it offsets those private forecasts that are made with that end in view. The uncertainty that obviously exists in all early reports fosters instability of values and this has proved harmful to the textile industry and other legitimate groups associated with the cultivation and manufacture of cotton. No way exists at present to prevent private preliminary predictions, even if such action were desirable. Inasmuch as the Government has better facilities for reporting than most private forecasters and is also impartial, it is difficult to see what good would be accomplished by stopping publication of its reports while the private forecasts are freely offered."

Creameries Expand Trade

A Minneapolis dispatch to the press of June 9 states that the Minnesota cooperative Creameries Association is steadily expanding its market for butter. Representatives of the association, which includes many of the farmer creameries of the State, have closed contracts for their product in the large eastern consuming centers and several shipments have been made to South America.

Farmer-Owners in Britain

Right Hon. E. G. Pretyman, writing under the title "Squeezing Out the Farmer-Owner," in Country Life (London) for May 30, says: "For a long period, and particularly since the war, it has been a commonplace that the Nation wants more food produced and more people employed on British agricultural land..... For many months past the Minister for Agriculture has been seeking information and advice from organized bodies representing agricultural interests. At all these conferences attention has been drawn to the disability which agriculture suffers under our system of national finance (in which I include our fiscal policy)..... Let us first consider the effect of high death duties upon the rapidly growing class of owner-occupiers, mostly tenant farmers, forced to buy their farms against their will, owing to the breaking up of agricultural estates, again largely due to the incidence of death duties. The occupying owners of the larger farms are mostly men with from 10,000 pounds to 50,000 pounds capital, all invested in the purchase of the farm and its equipment, and in the stock, crops, implements, etc., necessary for its working. None of these owner-occupiers is a super taxpayer except on very rare occasions, but the death duty on their estates is to be increased by from one to four per cent..... Surely, the House of Commons will want to know how this increase can be justified. It is futile to talk about security of tenure for tenant farmers and to advance them money to purchase their occupations if confiscatory death duties are to be levied on their estates. There

is no possible means of finding such sums except by selling the holding. There is a great deal of loose talk about insurance against death duties, and it is suggested that earmarked policies might be recognized by the State and exempted from aggregation. Such a scheme might be helpful to those who have sufficient free income to pay the premiums, but it would be quite useless to agricultural landowners, whether landlords or occupying owners. In both cases the present rate of income tax, including super tax, absorbs every penny of available income, and insurance premiums could not be paid. There is only one thing to be done, and that is to recognize that methods of assessment which are suitable for industrial and invested wealth are quite unsuitable for agricultural property. Death duties on the present scale are drawing the life-blood out of the countryside; and if only Parliament would realize it, it is a mockery to discuss minor measures of financial relief while this already intolerable impost is being increased. If the soil of Great Britain is to yield its increase, it must be equipped and it must be cultivated. It can neither be equipped nor cultivated without continuity in ownership and occupation and some security for the capital invested in it. No one has to look so far ahead as the landlord and the farmer; and affection for his farm or his estate inspires a man to look ahead and forego present income for future productiveness. It is in the Nation's interest to encourage him to do this, but how can he do anything of the kind when the Nation forces his farm or estate into the market at his death, and he can have no hope that his children will see the result of his sacrifices?"

Freight Rates

An editorial in Prairie Farmer for June 6 says: "The National Grange has exploded a bombshell in its brief filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission asking for a complete revision of the freight rate structure of the country. The grange does not contend that the railroads are making too much money or that their revenues should be reduced. It does contend that farmers are paying far too large a share of the Nation's freight bill. It has the facts to prove its contention. Present freight rates on farm products, averaged for all hauls, are $4.50 a ton, according to the grange brief. The average rate on manufactured products is only a little over $2 a ton. This inequality, it contends, shoul be eliminated. Furthermore, although only about half the total products of the soil are moved by rail, agriculture spends six per cent of its entire income for freight. Ninety per cent of the products of industry are moved by rail, yet industry pays only a little more than two per cent of its income for freight. The grange has presented a strong case. Its comprehensive analysis is a valuable contribution to the freight rate question, and may lead to a shifting of the burden that will greatly benefit agriculture."

Grain Market Investigation

An editorial in The Agricultural Review (Kansas City) for June says: ".....The grain trade, as represented by the boards of trade, contains many legitimate merchants who are doing all within their power to prevent harmful practices, and to maintain the organized markets at their highest efficiency and usefulness. And it has a lot of others who can not be fairly classified as anything but gamblers whose activities are a constant menance. It is not conceivable that these great marts,

that have developed in response to an economic need, will be legislated or regulated out of existence. But Secretary Jardine will have ample backing if it becomes necessary for him to do a little housecleaning."

Production Costs

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for May 29 says: "To say that the farmer wants cost of production plus five per cent is perhaps a good short way of asserting the right of the farmer to be guided by the same commercial aims that animate most industries. Cost of production, however, is a hard term to define. Perhaps, while we are asserting our rights to equality with other industries, it may be well to look into some of the complications of the problem. The first inquiry when we say we want cost of production for the farmer is invariably, 'Whose cost of production?' Is it to be the marginal farmer or the farmer favorably situated who is to furnish the measure? And if it is to be the average of all, and if that average makes a price substantially higher than the average price now, just what will the social effects of that increase be? It is possible that such increased price may bring into the farming business a number of marginal farmers, and a number of marginal farms. Farmers, that is, who are not very skillful, and land that is not very good. This increased production would make the job of holding prices high pretty hard. It is possible, too, that increased prices for farm products might be capitalized at once in the shape of land values. Suppose the net income from an acre goes from $6 to $10, and the farmer, instead of using that increase to better living standards, decides to use it to buy more land. Suppose, too, he finds others after land with the same view, and that as a result of this competition, the land is valued finally at $250 instead of $150. Is this increased value to go into the cost of production? And if it does, in a few years more, may not land go to $350, and later to $450 and $550, and so on up indefinitely? All the time, it may be, the standard of living of the working farmer might not change a bit. Would this be fair to the consumer? Would it be of any real value to the man on the land? These are hard questions, and, so far as we know, no one has the complete answer to them. Yet those who want 'cost of production and five per cent' for the farmer have really obligated themselves to do some hard thinking on exactly these points."

Wool Marketing

An editorial in Price Current-Grain Reporter for June 3 says: "Wide fluctuations recently in the price of wool have led to the suggestion from some sources that a wool futures market be established, and although this suggestion has not been of substantial volume, it does show that some dealers, appreciating the value of the futures market to the grain, cotton and allied trades, would like to try it out with wool. Those who are opposed to the idea point out the lack of standards, the difficulty in grading and the unreliability of statistics as unsurmountable difficulties precluding the possibility of trading in wool futures. Faulty statistics could of course to a large extent be corrected and standards, as we see the matter, could be set up in the wool industry in much the same way they are now established for cotton, thus leaving only the difficulty

of grading as the really hard problem to solve. If the conclusion is eventually reached that a wool futures market would be of definite service to the industry, as we believe it is, those behind the movement will soon find a solution to such barriers as may be presented."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 9: California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $4 to $4.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in midwestern markets and $5 to $6 in the East. Georgia Uneeda peaches sold firm at $2.50 to $3.00 per six-basket carrier, top of $4 in New York. Irish Cobbler potatoes from Virginia and the Carolinas ranged lower at $3.50 to $4.75 for slat and stave barrels in eastern consuming centers. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average ranged 50¢ to $1.00 unit basis in eastern markets; $475 to $900 bulk per car in Chicago; $350 to $675 f. o. b. Leesburg section. Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey strawberries ranged 23¢ to 30¢ quart basis in a few eastern markets.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.50; bulk of sales $11.80 to $12.40; medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.40; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.35 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $7.75 to $10.50; fat lambs $13.75 to $16; yearlings $10.75 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.

Grain prices quoted June 9: No. 2 red winter St. Louis $2.02 to $2.05. No. 3 red winter Chicago $1.83 1/2; No. 4 hard winter Chicago $1.58; No. 2 hard winter $1.71 to $1.72; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.13 to $1.14 1/2; No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.17 1/4 to $1.18 1/2; St. Louis $1.18; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.15 to $1.17 1/2; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.14 to $1.14 1/2; No. 3 white oats Chicago 53 3/4 to 55 1/4¢; St. Louis 56 to 56 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 31 points, closing at 24.14¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 40 points, closing at 23.20¢. (Prepared by the Bu. Of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 9,	June 8,	June 9, 1924.
20 Industrials	127.21	127.12	90.15
20 Railroads	97.15	97.22	83.16

(Wall St. Jour., June 10.)

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